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THE COUNTY ARCHIVES
OF THE
STATE OF ILLINOIS

BY
THEODORE CALVIN PEASE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS

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VOLUME XII

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BIBLIOGRAPHICAL SERIES

VOLUME III

THE COUNTY ARCHIVES

OF THE

STATE OF ILLINOIS

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PREFACE

The present volume of the *Illinois historical collections* owes its existence to the recognition by the trustees of the Illinois State Historical Library that their task of setting forth the sources for the history of the state would be left uncompleted without a detailed account of the materials of interest to the social scientist to be found in the various county courthouses. The trustees wished also to determine, during the preparation of such an account, if the conditions surrounding the county records are such as will insure their preservation. Having thus stated in a word the purpose of this volume, I will refer the reader to the introduction for a fuller discussion, and will reserve the remainder of my preface to such allusions and explanations of a personal nature as would be out of place in the body of a volume necessarily so impersonal as this.

The primary material upon which this book is based was obtained in a survey of the county records of the state begun for the Illinois State Historical Library by Mr. Clarence D. Johns in the fall of 1911. In the course of a year he made observations and lists of the records in sixty-seven counties. Beginning in June of 1912 Mr. John P. Senning examined the records of Livingston, Pike, Brown, Whiteside, Christian, McDonough, Morgan, Macoupin, Woodford, Wayne, Effingham, Clay, Shelby, Montgomery, Mason, Menard, Cass, Scott, Mercer, Rock Island, Stark, Henry, Lee, Fulton,

and Schuyler. The first eight named were partially rechecked by Mr. Jacob A. Hofto of the Illinois historical survey of the University of Illinois in April and June of 1915, and certain apparent discrepancies in the last fifteen were similarly rechecked by me in a hasty manner in April of 1914. The records in Calhoun, Coles, Cook, Cumberland, Douglas, Henderson, Marshall, Moultrie, Putnam, and Vermilion, completing the one hundred and two counties of the state, were examined by me in February, March, and April of 1914. The introductions to the report are based partly on a study of the session laws of the state, partly on conclusions drawn from my personal observations in the counties visited, and from the notes of the other persons engaged in the survey.

In preparing for publication a book based so largely on the work of others I have sometimes felt that my duty was in a great measure editorial, and the feeling has brought with it a sense of limitation. In the majority of instances I have been obliged to employ the notes of other men to arrive at a conception of the variations in the types and titles of records—variations so marked that it is impossible to describe the records of any two counties of the state in the same terms. And no matter how painstaking the searchers, errors in gathering such material will occur. No historical student needs to be told that absolute accuracy is the fruit not of the first nor of the second collation; yet in no instance have two thorough examinations of the same county been possible. Ordinarily I have been obliged to content myself with careful editing of the notes at hand. Minor discrepancies apparent on the face of the notes have been eliminated; more important

ones in certain instances indicated above have been checked back to the records. In the main the material as it now stands appears to me to be trustworthy and accurate.

The material presented for the various counties in the body of the report is not always uniform in scope. As to the variations mentioned above, in certain cases a standard designation for a record has been adopted; in other cases too great intricacy and variability made it necessary to let the local terminology stand. Different counties, also, have been listed with different degrees of minuteness. In each case all the material available after being reduced to a standard order has been printed. The shorter lists I believe include all the more important records, and the longer and more minute ones—among them Champaign, Coles, Douglas, Moultrie, Sangamon, and Vermilion—exhibit in detail the actual conditions and incidentally the difficulty of the problem of selection with which the surveyors were confronted.

The trained archivist may ask why the experience of European archivists has not been more fully utilized in the introductions. My answer, if heretical, is short. I was unable to find any point except the use of permanent record materials at which the experience or conclusions of European archivists touched the conditions or problems of the local records of a middle-western state. While fully recognizing the importance of the problems involved and the danger of attempting their solution empirically, I think that the proper scientific principles must be evolved from an intensive study of the local situation.

To the casual reader these pages in many places may appear keenly critical of local record officers. Such,

however, is not the writer's intention. In many instances the faults and mistakes in record making were committed a generation ago; in many others the poor condition of the records is due to overcautious frugality in the administration of county finances. In the remaining cases, in which a negligent custodian in the present is apparently blameworthy, the people of Illinois must not forget that the negligence is partly their own. We have all to reproach ourselves with paying too little heed to the condition of record rooms whose contents are a vital concern to each one of us; and better conditions will not become universal until public opinion becomes sufficiently aroused to demand them. In the following pages, therefore, no criticisms of particular custodians are made. On the other hand mention is made of such offices as appeared to be in excellent condition. The author has, however, found it necessary to judge of these in great part from the notes of other investigators and doubtless has left unmentioned offices as meritorious as any that have been particularly noticed.

I have left to the last the pleasant duty of acknowledging my indebtedness to the assistance of others. As early as 1906 Mr. Alvord, recognizing the importance of the county records of the state, attempted by means of a questionnaire addressed to county officers to reach some conclusion as to their extent. Mr. S. J. Buck, now of the University of Minnesota and formerly of the University of Illinois, some five years ago made a preliminary examination of the records of eighteen of the oldest counties. Coming down to those who have directly contributed to the success of the present survey I have to express my personal indebtedness for the clear-

ness and reliability of the notes left me by Mr. Johns. The county officials of the state without exception have welcomed the employees of the library and have been ready with any assistance in their power. This is true especially of Cook county; there the extent and intricacy of the records made it necessary to appeal constantly to officials and deputies for assistance and explanations, and the appeal was never made in vain. Furthermore various Cook county officials have been kind enough to read and criticize the proof of those portions of the report relating to their offices. Mr. A. F. Terrell, county clerk of Mason county, has criticized in proof parts IV and V of the introduction; and Mr. Eugene Whiting, clerk of the circuit court and recorder of Fulton county, has similarly criticized parts II and III; both men have offered helpful suggestions. Mr. Whiting especially has given me careful criticism by which I have greatly profited. The chairman of the library board, Mr. E. B. Greene, and the editor of the *Collections*, Mr. C. W. Alvord, have continually assisted with helpful advice and have afforded me every possible facility for the preparation of the volume. In particular I have to thank Mr. Alvord for careful criticism of the literary form of the introductions and of the composition of the volume in general. Miss Mary G. Doherty of the library staff has been of great service in collating the material, and indeed has exercised a valuable supervision over every detail in seeing the book through the press. Miss Lydia M. Brauer has assisted in reading the proofs.

THEODORE CALVIN PEASE

URBANA, ILLINOIS
June 15, 1915

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

B.V. = Basement vault
C.V. = Cash vault
f.b. = Filingbox
L.V. = Lower vault
ms. = Manuscript
n.d. = No date
p. = Page
p.h. = Pigeonhole
T.V. = Top vault
U.V. = Upper vault
v. = Volume

The introduction to this volume has been carefully indexed: and it is believed that the character of obscure titles in the county lists can ordinarily be determined by checking their key words through the index to the general description of records of their type. In the lists of county records the word "date" when used to indicate the termination of a record series means the date at which the county was examined, which is indicated in a footnote attached to the name of the county. The counties are arranged alphabetically except that Cook on account of its size is placed first. The record offices are arranged in the following order: county clerk, probate clerk, circuit clerk, and recorder. The records of each of these offices are arranged in the order indicated by the following outline:[1]

County Clerk
- County Commissioners' and Supervisors' Records
- County Court Records
  - Common Law and Criminal Records

[1] Records whose character cannot certainly be told are listed as miscellaneous.

- Special Assessment, Drainage, Voluntary Insolvency, Juvenile, Adoption, and Insanity Records
- Naturalization Records
- Dockets
- Fee Books

Taxation Records
- Summaries of Taxation
- Records of Levy
- Records of Assessment
- Records of Collection
- Records of Board of Review
- Records of Tax Judgment, Sale, Redemption, and Forfeiture
- Record of Affidavits for Tax Deeds

Records of Vital Statistics
- Marriage Registers
- Birth Registers
- Death Registers
- Registers of Physicians
- Certificate and License Records

Clerk of the Probate Court
- Court Records, including Probate of Will
- Dockets and Fee Books
- Records of Wills, Bonds, and Letters
- Records of Inventories, Appraisements, and Sale Bills
- Report Records
- Widows' Selection Records
- Records of Sale of Real Estate

Clerk of the Circuit Court
- Court Records
- Dockets and Fee Books
- Miscellaneous Records

Recorder
- Deed and Mortgage Records
- Certificate Records
- Miscellaneous Records

HISTORY OF COUNTY ARCHIVES IN ILLINOIS

I. The County Archives of Illinois[1]

The following introduction states certain conclusions based on a survey of the record offices—those of the circuit, county, and probate clerks, and recorder[2]—in each of the hundred and two counties of Illinois. The evidence from which the conclusions are drawn appears in the later parts of this volume, which contain respectively an account of the general character of Illinois county records, and detailed lists of the volumes and papers in each office. In the examination of the various counties, two ends were constantly kept in view: the first was to appraise the historical value of the records and to list their contents for the benefit of the searcher; the second was to determine whether the records of the past were adequately protected from damp, decay, and fire, and whether the records of the present are made by methods which insure economy of space and permanence. In a word the purpose of the survey was to test the form and condition of the records themselves by the principles of archive science, and to establish the degree of interest of their contents.

Before estimating the importance of county records for historical purposes, it will be well to indicate briefly

[1] Pages xvii–xlv of this volume have already been printed separately as a report for the general assembly.

[2] The offices of circuit clerk and recorder of course are held by the same persons in all but a dozen counties; the same is true of the offices of county clerk and probate clerk. In Cook county the records of the superior, criminal, and juvenile courts, the board of assessors, and the board of review were examined in addition to those above mentioned.

the types of records kept in the various offices. The circuit clerk has the records of the circuit court, including common law, chancery, and criminal business, and proceedings in naturalization. These records may be classified as files of case papers—including the documents filed in each case—court records proper, court dockets, judgment and execution dockets, fee books, transcript records, and bond records. The recorder's office contains records of real estate transfers, mortgages, and leases affecting land in the county and filed for record, as well as records of various certificates—incorporation, election of trustees, etc. The probate clerk's office contains records of the execution of wills and the administration of estates, including records of wills, of the appointment of administrators, executors, conservators, and guardians, of their official letters empowering them to act, of their bonds for the faithful discharge of their trusts, of their financial reports and settlements. Further the office has records of inventories, appraisements and sale bills of the real and personal property of estates, and various records of similar nature; as in the case of the circuit clerk's office it has also a file of papers paralleling the records. In one form or another the majority of the records of these three offices may be traced back in each county to its organization.

A part of the county clerk's records are of more recent date. First is a series of records of the county court similar in general to those of the circuit court, but including also records of the proceedings of county judges in special assessments, in the establishment of drainage districts, in the disposition of dependent and delinquent children, in adoptions, and in insanity pro-

ceedings. With the exception of the insanity record, these records all begin with 1872 and later dates.

The records of the county court, however, are only a part of the county clerk's records. Since the foundation of each county, its clerk has kept a record of marriages, and since 1877, records of births and deaths. He is also custodian of the tax records of the county past and present, including certificates of levy, road tax lists, schedules, assessors' and collectors' books, judgment sale and redemption records, etc. He always has an old record of marks and brands, and one of estrays or stray cattle—frequently also a file of old election returns. Moreover he is keeper of the records of the county commissioners or supervisors, which ordinarily go back to the formation of the county, and contain in recent years the record of county government and county finances, and for the earlier period a variety of matters, such as licenses, petitions for new roads, surveys, etc.[1]

A few counties have records antedating the formation of the state. In most cases these are merely the beginnings of the circuit clerks', recorders', probate, and county commissioners' records mentioned above. In Randolph and St. Clair counties, however, there are records of French dominion in the state, which reveal the forms of government and public business of a civilization that disappeared in Illinois a century or more ago.

Aside from the self-evident case of the archives of French, revolutionary, and territorial Illinois, one aspect of the historical value of the county records

[1] Of course it is to be understood that these lists are very far from exhaustive. They indicate only the main types of records.

suggests itself at once. A body of marriage records, court records, deed records, and county board records inevitably contains a vast number of authentic facts regarding persons and events, any one of which may prove to be extremely important. Thus a single entry in a public office may preserve to a historical student the truth that may lead to a far-reaching conclusion or overset the credibility of a plausible contemporary narrative. What particular book or file may do so, no one can say till he searches the extant material with a definite problem in mind. There are not many sections of the county records that can summarily be dismissed as devoid of all interest to the sociologist, the economist, or the historian.

The bulk of the Illinois county records partly conceals their supreme importance—the fact that they represent in great measure that aspect of the state's history which today seems best worth the writing. The historian of Illinois can no longer be content with chronicling the acts and the succession of her governors and legislatures, and her votes for Whig, Democratic, or Republican congressmen, senators and presidents. He cannot even be content with tracing in microscopic detail the lives of her great citizens. Rather, if he expects the world to approve his work as worth the doing, he must set himself to the task of showing how the Illinois of the present has come into being. He must explain how on the foundation of a French empire in the Mississippi valley has been built an Anglo-Saxon commonwealth—how men entered the wilderness, bought and sold land, dabbled with the slavery they had put from them in their constitution as a forbidden thing, acquired wealth and achieved comfort and

luxury, built roads and established schools, and administered a rude justice and a simple government. In the land records, county commissioners' records, and circuit court records, in the assessors' books, the probate wills and inventories, the election returns, and the slavery papers that survive in county courthouses is the extant material for such a history of Illinois.

Much of the necessary sources for such a history must, it is true, be sought elsewhere. The relative value of the county records of course declines as the life of the counties they serve expands and merges more and more in the larger and more complex life of the state and the nation. The archives will tell us little of the coming of the railroads and of the development of the industrial life of the state. Even for the earlier Illinois they can tell us only by inference of ideals and aspirations and spiritual life. But at all events, if we care to listen to them they can tell us as much of the physical conquest of the Illinois wilderness as we can understand.

The records that hold such material, apart from any pecuniary interests they may serve, are priceless; if they are lost they can never be replaced. Affecting to ignore their fate by dismissing them as mere playthings for scholastic pedants is impossible. They are not simply material for history; they are the very incarnation of the state's past. Only when the people of Illinois are content to live wholly in the present and ignore the past, may they logically permit their county records through the negligence of county officials to perish in whole or in part; when they do so, they will estimate their records at a lower rate than that at which similar records are appraised by the enlightened opinion of the civilized world.

In European countries of late years, notably in Belgium, an awakened national spirit has led directly to a new appreciation of the value of public records and the care to which they are entitled. This new spirit has found practical expression in a science of archive economy. With a view to the permanence of the records of the future, followers of the science have searched for the qualities of ink and paper and the methods of filing that insure the permanence of the records intrusted to them. For the preservation of the records of the past they have considered fireproof receptacles and storing devices, and methods of restoring and mounting decaying papers. In a word, the end of archival science is to preserve the past and present records of every jurisdiction as public documents, and to render them available to the searcher.

In this country effective application of archive methods to the records of local jurisdiction has so far been confined to New England. In 1884 the legislature of Massachusetts provided for a general survey of the records in her local jurisdiction. This survey, begun under the direction of Carroll D. Wright,[1] led to the appointment of a commissioner of public records with general supervision over the records of the counties and towns. First Rhode Island (1896) and then Connecticut (1899)[2] followed the example of Massachusetts. The reports of the commissioners of these three states contain the best body of local archive practice to be found in the United States.

The most valuable work has been done by the late

[1] C. D. Wright, *Report on the custody and condition of the public records of parishes, towns, and counties*, 1889, pp. xvii *et seq.*

[2] *Report of the commission of public records* (Connecticut), 1900, p. 1; *Report of the state record commissioner* (Rhode Island), 1911, p. 1.

Robert W. Swan, commissioner for Massachusetts. For more than a quarter of a century he labored patiently and ceaselessly to recover lost records, to restore defaced record books, to drive clerks to care for their records, and selectmen to provide fireproof repositories for them, and most of all to introduce better systems of record keeping for the future. To the student of archive economy, the long series of his reports is a mine of suggestion and information.

However, it is impossible to adapt the conclusions of New England or European archivists to Illinois conditions without change. The experience of archivists in other countries must of course be studied, but the problems that present themselves in this state must be formulated and solved independently. The problems presented by Illinois county records have seemed to group themselves under the following heads: First the question of ink and paper used; second that of possible economies in the use of record space; third that of protecting the records against loss or decay and rendering them available to students and searchers; and lastly, as a possible means to this end, the question of the advisability of centralization of county records in a central archive depot. On some of the heads the experience of other states will be of value to us; on others it will be necessary to feel our way.[1]

[1] In many respects conditions surrounding local records in New England are different from those in Illinois. Record jurisdictions are far more numerous. Carroll D. Wright's first report enumerated 348 towns, 14 counties, and 20 districts for registering of deeds for a population (1910) of 3,366,416. Connecticut with 1,114,756 population has record offices in 8 counties, 119 probate districts, and 179 towns. (*Report of temporary examiner of public records* [Connecticut], 1904.) Rhode Island has 5 counties, and 39 towns and cities with offices to serve a population of less than one-tenth that of Illinois—542,610 as against 5,638,591. (*Report of state record commissioner* [Rhode Island], 1910.) This multiplicity of record jurisdictions was made worse by the practice of electing town clerks annually and compensating them

The question of inks and papers for record use has already been carefully considered in Massachusetts The indefatigable Swan early came to the conclusion that the records of the immediate past would in time be completely obliterated as a result of the unfit materials used in making them. To guard future records from a similar fate he suggested that the state enforce the use of standard inks and papers. After a series of tests, both by chemical analysis and actual use he fixed on the formula of an ink which he considered permanent, and secured legislation requiring local offices of record to procure it through the record commissioner.[1] Swan believed that an ink originally writing black, any colored ink, or any ink made with aniline or eosin, was certain to fade. For the same reason, while advocating the use of black record typewriter ribbons and stamping pads, he condemned ribbons and pads made with colored ink. As for paper, he finally decided that both wood-pulp and all-linen papers were not permanent, and recommended a paper of linen rags and cotton clippings.[2]

only by fees. As a result, the clerks pursued other businesses and the records were moved from place to place accordingly. Further, the fact that many records dated to the mid-seventeenth century made the task of restoring them a difficult one. To copy such records required the services of a skilled copyist familiar with the handwriting and the phonetic spelling that were capable of making "Winsenite" out of "Wednesday night" and "hole of the rats" from "whole of the rates." Swan finally came to the conclusion that it was less expensive to mount such records page by page on transparent silk by the Emery process. In the great majority of Illinois records, on the contrary, the spelling is fair and the handwriting irreproachable. In almost no case is a record in such shape that more is needed to restore it than the attention of a skilled binder. In the case of the almost single exception of the old French records, the papers requiring attention have been admirably mounted under the direction of Mr. C. W. Alvord.

[1]*Report of public record commissioner* (Massachusetts), 1891, pp. 111 *et seq.; ibid.*, 1901, pp. 23, 29.

[2]*Report of the public record commissioner* (Massachusetts), 1901, p. 29. "The 1901 specifications for the standard ink are as follows:

In the course of the present survey, it has been possible to handle this question only in a superficial manner. In general, it may be said that only records of the period, 1850–1860, show any marked tendency to fade; and—if the evidence of numbers of private acts of the period providing for the copying of defaced rec-

"*Specifications for a Standard Record Ink, to be furnished under Chapter 354 of the Acts of 1899.*

"It must be a gallo-tannate of iron ink, not inferior in any essential quality to one properly prepared after the following formula, in which all the ingredients are of that quality prescribed by the United States Pharmacopœia, and the per cent. of true acid present in the sample of tannic acid used has been determined by the Loewenthal and Schroeder method.

"Take of pure, dry Tannic Acid, 23.4 parts by weight.
of crystal Gallic Acid, 7.7 parts.
of Ferrous Sulphate, 30.0 parts.
of Gum Arabic, 10.0 parts.
of diluted Hydrochloric Acid, 25.0 parts.
of Carbolic Acid, 1.0 part.
of Water, sufficient to make up the mixture at the temperature of 60° F. to the volume of 1,000 parts by weight of water.

"Inks submitted will be subjected to the following tests, as compared with the standard ink described above:

1. A fluid ounce allowed to stand at rest in a white glass vessel, freely exposed in diffused daylight for two weeks to the light and air, at a temperature of 50° to 60° F., protected against the entrance of dust, must remain as free from deposit upon the surface of the ink or on the bottom or sides of the vessel.

2. It must contain no less iron, and must have a specific gravity of 1.035 to 1.040 at 60° F.

3. It must develop its color as quickly.

4. After a week's exposure to diffused daylight the color must be as intense a black when used upon the standard record paper, and it must equally resist changes from exposure to light, air, water, or alcohol.

5. It must be as fluid, flow as well, strike no more through the paper, nor remain more sticky immediately after drying." *Report of the public record commissioner* (Massachusetts), 1901, p. 23.

With the additional requirements that the ink must resist changes from bleaching agents, and must contain a temporary blue coloring material, these specifications are identical with those of the United States government. Swan considered an ink of iron or nut galls—or gallo-tannate of iron—the one best able to resist fading, washing, or erasure. A carbon ink such as india ink he thought retained its color best—but he considered that the insolubility of carbon exposed a carbon ink like india to the danger of being washed off the paper. He believed, also, that to be permanent, ink must soak into the paper. Accordingly he considered blotting a written page and using an erasing fluid both dangerous practices—for the one left little ink to penetrate the paper, and the other might cause unforeseen chemical reactions in the ink. He considered a black record typewriter ribbon made the most permanent record possible, for it made possible the use of a carbon compound which was driven into the paper by the type.

ords is worth anything—the records began to fade soon after they were made. The paper now employed in most offices seems of good quality; though what change the passage of a century or two may work on both ink and paper is another question. In most counties the typewriter ribbons used appear in a list approved by the Massachusetts commissioners. The inks ordinarily procured are Carter's, Stafford's, and Arnold's. In most cases they purport to be made for record purposes, but it is impossible to say on a superficial examination whether or not they are permanent. Swan's tests of various brands cannot be relied on at present. His list of approved inks was published twenty years ago; and since that time both the names and compositions of inks have undergone marked changes. Without chemical analysis or practical tests it is impossible to say whether an ink is or is not permanent; and such tests have necessarily been precluded by the scope of this survey.

The matter of inks and paper however, is altogether too important to be trusted to chance. In some way or other the state should assure itself at once of the quality of materials used on its county records. Two courses suggest themselves; either the appointment of a special commission to put the whole question to the test of chemical analysis, or the passage of an act requiring the county officers to use only inks and papers guaranteed by the dealers to conform to the Massachusetts standards. The latter course is the simpler and would certainly obviate much of the danger now present.

Little attention so far has been paid by archivists in the United States to economies of record space. The

importance of the topic, however, is brought home to any thoughtful observer by conditions in certain Illinois courthouses. Their small vaults are loaded with half-used and abandoned volumes, which have crowded other records out into storeroom or basement to run their chance of destruction. As a rule this is due to the purchase of books with printed pages which did not fit the document brought for record, and either had to be discarded altogether or else were made to answer the purpose by wasting one page out of every two. Often, too, a clerk has attempted to use a printed form for a type of record totally unfitted for it. To avoid wasting space in such ways would be to economize both in money and vault room.[1]

Speaking generally, the most economical record book is one containing a printed form, drawn to correspond with the forms on which documents usually come to the office to be recorded. Next in order of economy is a typewritten book, and last a handwritten one. The usual practice at present is to use books containing printed forms side by side with blank record volumes filled out either on the book typewriter or, in the case of loose-leaf records, on ordinary machines. As a general rule some such combination appears to be most economical.

The following detailed conclusions in regard to economy are based on evidence in great part printed elsewhere.[2] In the case of the circuit clerk, printed-form records for entry of judgment by default and by con-

[1] It seems desirable to remove from abandoned records what pages have been used and to bind them together. In this manner much of the effect of former waste can be obviated.

[2] In the succeeding paragraphs and indeed in this whole introduction, very little that is said is applicable to Cook county. Methods there in use will be indicated in connection with the detailed list of records for the county.

fession can probably be kept to good advantage in all but the smallest counties. On the other hand, printed-form chancery records for divorce or foreclosure suits can be kept only in the largest.[1] Both more convenient and more economical than the old term dockets are the loose-leaf dockets, in which one leaf is assigned each case, and carried in a current binder for successive entries at different terms till the case is finally adjudicated. Fee books, in the circuit and other county courts, should be almost entirely manuscript. A full-page, printed-form fee book is more uniformly wasteful than any other type of record.

In recorders' offices, waste of space has most usually arisen from the use of printed-form blanks made to fit the elaborate mortgage forms devised by various farm loan companies. Because one of these companies has changed its form or discontinued business in a locality, whole books have been discarded unused, in one county or a dozen. The best remedy is care on the part of the clerk to order his printed books so that the forms do not outrun his immediate needs. In this connection, it is an excellent scheme to have the forms of five or six different companies bound in the same book with standard mortgage forms, or with a blank section in which special instruments may be recorded.

Further, most recorders' offices would probably find it good practice to separate chattel mortgage records completely from ordinary land records. A chattel mortgage in three or in four years loses validity, and the

[1] In the smaller counties if no question of legality were involved, a loose-leaf chancery record for partitions or decrees would prove more convenient by permitting the records of the various proceedings in a suit to be kept in one place. In the opinion of the attorney general, a loose-leaf record is not a well-bound volume in the meaning of the law. See appendix, *post*, xliii.

record of it is of no further importance. It should not therefore be treated in the same manner as a deed or mortgage that forms a link in a chain of title to real estate, and is therefore a permanent record. Accordingly chattels should be recorded in a separate volume, numbered in a separate series, entered in a separate entry book, and indexed in a separate index.

In county and probate clerks' offices it is poor policy to carry in the same volume the record of an insanity trial and of the appointment of a conservator. The first of these is a county court and the second a probate court record; and if the county ever attains the population requisite for a separate probate clerk's office, not even the wisdom of Solomon can assign each office the records that are its due. The recording of executors' bonds and letters on a printed form that includes also a blank space to enter the will is frequently wasteful. The same is true of other records that combine formal headings with manuscript lists, such as sale bills of personal property. One excellent way of combining a record or list of variable content and extent with a fixed form heading is to use a blank page, and to stamp in the formal heading with a rubber stamp. For recording the various documents filed in the probate of estates, certain offices have devised a loose-leaf form, and, waiving the question of legality, the device appears excellent for a small county.

Marriage records as usually made are more vulnerable to criticism than any others kept by the county clerk. A few offices keep both the board of health form of marriage register and a record of license and certificate also, perhaps in the belief that the former record does not satisfy the legal requirement that the

certificate be recorded. Other officers, possibly under the impression that the form prescribed by the board of health is no longer required by law, have discontinued it altogether. Either practice is open to criticism, for the board of health form is probably a sufficient record of the certificate and should, for the sake of uniformity, be the one record kept.[1] The custom of using books of applications for marriage licenses, with printed questions and blank spaces for the applicant's answer is wasteful; he should be required to sign a printed affidavit in a bound book.

Finally, economy of space would be effected in the offices of the county clerk and recorder if the state government issued small form books to be used in recording certificates. Physicians' and midwives' certificates, dentists' certificates, architects' certificates, veterinary surgeons' certificates, nurses' certificates, certificates of breeding of stallions have all to be recorded in county offices, and are on forms prescribed by the state departments. Usually a county has need of only a small book for any one of these, but almost invariably, probably because it is comparatively cheaper to procure a large printed book from a private firm, it procures a volume that it can never hope to fill before the law or the prescribed form is changed. The remedy suggested above, when applied by the naturalization bureau at Washington, changed the naturalization records from the most wasteful to the most economical records kept by Illinois courts. If the state departments would adopt the same practice, and when issuing a new form of certificate would supply the smaller counties with books of twenty-five or fifty pages

[1] See appendix, *post*, xlii.

each, possible waste of space could easily be forestalled.

Economy in record keeping as we have seen is merely a corollary to the more important consideration of safety. The topic of safety naturally leads to the consideration of fireproof housing of records, in vaults or in fireproof courthouses. The great majority of Illinois counties make some pretensions to having the one or the other of these. Usually they adopt one of three different architectural schemes. A few counties house their clerks in a small, one-story, brick office set apart from the other county buildings. Others simply have their records shelved in the clerks' offices in the main courthouse—though usually where this is done the courthouse is supposedly fireproof. In the majority of cases, however, the county keeps its more valuable records in the courthouse vaults. The vaults are sometimes what the name implies and sometimes large rooms distinguished from others as to external appearance by steel doors, steel window shutters, and thick walls. In most counties the equipment consists in part at least of steel filingboxes and steel roller shelves, but in most counties also a part of the records are in old style, pasteboard boxes and wooden, upright shelves. So far the description will fit the majority of Illinois courthouses.

Perhaps the degree of safety enjoyed by county records can be most sharply indicated by something like a statistical summary. Fairly exact notes on ninety-five courthouses are at hand. Of these courthouses, forty-one are apparently fireproof, ten are doubtful, and forty-four, reckoning the counties without courthouses, make no pretense of being fireproof. Of these last, however, twenty-five have vaults that are clearly

safe, although in half of these a part of the records are stored outside the vaults.[1] Of the ten courthouses classified as doubtful, five, and of the forty-four that are not fireproof, fourteen are without safe vaults. Therefore in nearly one-fifth of the counties of Illinois, the records are in immediate danger of wholesale destruction by fire.

Startling as the above statement may sound, to anyone acquainted with actual conditions in certain courthouses it is the barest commonplace. It is true that one often finds, in small counties as well as large, modern courthouses with good and adequate vaults, modern filing material, and carefully preserved records. It is also true that in others, constituting perhaps a bare majority, conditions are merely indifferent. But in a large minority of instances, there is no pretense of guarding the records from fire in the so-called "vaults." Kerosene lamps and coal stoves stand among wooden furniture on wooden floors, while the books and papers are in filing equipment of pasteboard and wood that could only furnish fuel to a fire. Apparently the county officials who tolerate such conditions cannot learn from the fires that have partially or completely destroyed the records of thirteen counties,[2] even though their own courthouses have been the scenes of such disasters. In at least two counties whose records have

[1] In addition, five have good vaults with wooden equipment, and two others good vaults that are too small. The description given above is based merely on general observations and by no means on technical examinations. However, it errs on the side of leniency if at all.

[2] As follows: Jackson in 1843; Franklin in 1845; Wabash, April 5, 1857; Logan, April 15, 1857; Pulaski, 1860; Moultrie, 1865; Iroquois, October, 1866; Cook, October 9, 1871; Hardin, 1884; Cumberland, 1885; Wayne, November, 1886; McLean, 1900; Clark, December 30, 1902. This list does not include certain instances in which the courthouses were burned without loss of records, or only minor damage was done.

been wiped out by fire within the memory of men now in the prime of life, conditions are as bad as can be. True, these counties may have laid to their souls the proverb that it is useless to lock the stable door after the horse is stolen, for they have little left that the historical student would miss. But in at least five of the nineteen counties established prior to 1819, bodies of records that are practically intact escape from day to day by mere luck the complete destruction that could be wrought by a single misplaced match.

In such a condition of affairs the duty of the legislature should be clear. So long as the constitution of the state exemplifies the policy of making and keeping records in the hundred and two county seats, the statute law should command that each of the hundred and two have a fireproof courthouse. Such a requirement need not bear too heavily on any county. It is not always the smallest counties that are the worst offenders. Further, the installing of fireproof vaults in an old courthouse should not prove too difficult or expensive. If that should seem impractical in any county, a separate building large enough to hold the record offices could be erected at moderate expense; and if located in a public square at some distance from other buildings it should afford a reasonable degree of protection against fire. Such a building at least would be a vast improvement in point of safety over many courthouses that could be named. But whatever the expense of safely housing a county's records may be, the statute law of the state should no longer leave the matter of safety to the option of county officials.[1]

[1] There is no statutory provision requiring counties to provide fireproof housing for their records. Various acts from an early date, however, have recognized the importance of such protection. Thus in 1837 an act directed

Metallic filing equipment is only one degree less necessary than fireproof vaults. The fact that paper and wood filing materials add to the danger of fire is the chief, but not the only reason for discarding them. If books are kept in an upright position, as is usually the case where wooden shelving is used, the weight of the book strains the binding of the back, and the top collects a layer of dust which gradually seeps down to deface and decay the leaves. For this second reason it is even worse to leave papers exposed to dust in open wooden pigeonholes.

However, it must always be borne in mind that fireproof vaults and modern filingboxes, unless supplemented by the care and interest of the individual custodians, will not save the records of Illinois. Statutes may prescribe receptacles that will protect the records from fire, but the most carefully drawn statutes cannot force negligent clerks to protect them from dust and decay. Here the one hope is to inspire every custodian with a sense of the importance of the records intrusted to him and of the care they deserve.

The explanation of the neglect from which older records suffer in many courthouses is to be sought in the distinction between current and dead records. To a greater or less extent the distinction can be traced in each of the record offices; but perhaps it is most noticeable in the county clerk's. Such of his records as appear to him important or likely to be consulted

the building of a fireproof clerk's and recorder's office in Sangamon county. (*1 Laws of 1837*, p. 180.) In 1843, a general act authorized county commissioners to erect fireproof recorders' offices and permitted similar offices to be provided for the clerks. (*Laws of 1843*, p. 210.) But the act merely permitted and did not compel, and so the law stands today, requiring the erection of fireproof offices and vaults only when the finances of the county will permit. *Revised statutes, 1913*, ch. 34, sec. 26.

often in the course of business are carefully arranged in his vault. As examples, may be cited the county commissioners' and supervisors' records, birth, marriage, and death records, tax judgment records, recent collectors' books, and county court records, together with current dockets and fee books. But old county commissioners' papers, old assessors' and collectors' books, tax levies, road tax lists, and election returns, to mention only a few items, are apt, if the vault is at all crowded, to find their way to some other storage place.

In itself this is not censurable. It is perfectly natural that records ordinarily used in the daily round of business, and apt to be consulted by persons whose interest is pecuniary or personal, should be kept close to the office, and older records stored elsewhere. When, as in a few counties, such obsolete records are carefully filed, labeled, and arranged in adequate storage vaults, no more can be asked. Even when a room in attic or basement is carefully fitted up to receive dead records, the condition is so much above the average that it is difficult to find other words than commendations.

But in very many counties no such care is taken of old records. They are heaped on floors, in damp and dusty rooms that have not been cleaned in decades. Files are allowed to escape from broken pasteboard boxes and scatter over the floor. Papers sometimes are piled in open wooden boxes. Indeed words cannot picture conditions in the attic and basement storerooms of a few counties. To the knowledge of the present writer it is sometimes literally true that clerks do not know of the existence of records in such storerooms or of the plight they are in.

In too many cases such repositories have been got rid of by the simple process of destroying the books and papers they contain. Such action, reprehensible as it is, is at least more logical than preserving in a dust hole books and papers as public records. But if more logical, it is also more provoking, for in this manner records of importance have been put beyond the possibility of restoration. Undoubtedly the destruction of worthless books and papers is advisable, but the inability of certain clerks to distinguish between the worthy and the worthless has been responsible for the disappearance of too many valuable papers in smoke. The ideal condition would be one in which clerks were prohibited from destroying old papers until an agent of the state historical library had given permission. Here, however, we come face to face with the problem of centralization.

The subject of centralization of records, perhaps the most important of all, has been reserved to the last. In the following discussion it will be assumed that the keeping of certain records in county repositories is a settled policy in the state's political order, and is not to be reversed on considerations of archive management. In fact the proper departure for a discussion of centralizing county records is the fact mentioned above, that the records of an office divide themselves into records necessary for the dispatch of public business and records possessing historical value only. No one would consider seriously the withdrawal from its present lodgment of any record having a present use. Suggestions for centralization concern only records of the class last mentioned.

The experience of other states with the centra[illegible]tion

of local records is of little service. As yet none of them has met the issue squarely. In recent years many states have passed laws for the removal of obsolete papers and records to central repositories; but none of these laws makes any pretense of designating certain classes of records for centralization and all of them require the assent of the county official concerned. Michigan, it is true, has just empowered its historical commission to take possession of all archives, state or local, over thirty years old, and in the commission's opinion no longer in current use. But such legislation only enables vigilant historical students to save valuable records from immediate danger of destruction. The problem of genuinely safeguarding the whole body of county records and making them as accessible to the historical student as to the lawyer demands a solution in broader terms.

At the outset one or two cautions may be stated. First, it is not desirable to remove all obsolete papers and records to a central depository. On a careful examination, certain types of books and files will be found to have no conceivable historical value; and these should be destroyed. Furthermore, as a general rule, it is poor policy to separate two records which are links in a connected chain of administrative or judicial procedure. To move court fee books, dockets, or case papers to a central repository, and leave the court records of the same period in a county seat is bad practice; for a person investigating a given case will discover that records affecting it which were made in one office have been divided between two. Another case in point would be separating assessors' and collectors' books from tax judgment records. As a general prin-

ciple only bodies of records complete in themselves and possessing some historical interest are fit subjects for centralization.

A few such records may be mentioned. The clearest case perhaps is furnished by the files of election returns which in many counties are extant for years antedating the first constitution. These returns are of great historical interest, but are never referred to in ordinary business, and in too many instances have been destroyed by clerks who regarded them merely as rubbish. An act directing county clerks to surrender them to the state historical library on its request would probably encounter no disapproval whatever, and would render easily accessible to historical students a valuable body of material. It is, therefore, desirable that such an act be passed.

Certain other records also might at once be centralized to advantage. Most clerks would probably be willing to turn over their records and papers of cattle marks and brands, and of estrays; though in this case the historical interest of the material is less obvious. The earlier county commissioners' records and papers are of great historical importance; but very many clerks would be unwilling to part with them. These records therefore should be moved only in accord with a comprehensive project for centralization.

Such a project should be adopted only after careful consideration. It would necessitate a more thorough determination of the records that should be centralized than has here been possible. It would require a large building especially constructed for the storing of records and a corps of trained workers to collect, arrange, and care for the books and papers assembled in the central

archive repository. The nucleus of the organization necessary could be found in the Illinois State Historical Library, which by means of appropriations could be expanded sufficiently to cope with the task. With these necessary preliminaries arranged, the state could evolve an ideal system of caring for records—a series of fireproof courthouses for county records in current use, a state officer whose consent would be necessary to the destruction of any record or paper by a county officer, and a central repository for records primarily of interest as monuments of the past of Illinois.

However, the question of removing election returns to the custody of the state historical library need not wait on the inception of such a scheme. A single trained assistant would suffice for collecting and arranging the county returns, and to set a clerk to work at such a scheme would not amount to accepting prematurely the principles of the broader scheme. It is, therefore, respectfully suggested that an act be passed empowering the state historical library to remove to Springfield all poll books, tally sheets, and duplicate election returns in county offices prior to 1870, and that further the librarian of the state historical library be empowered to certify to copies of them as fully as the former custodian might have done.

In closing, the earlier suggestions made in this report may be reiterated:

1. An act authorizing the centralization in the state historical library of all election returns prior to 1870 and making an appropriation for the purpose.

2. An act requiring the construction of fireproof vaults in all courthouses not clearly fireproof.

3. An act requiring the use of an ink and paper

known to conform to the standards prescribed in Massachusetts.

4. An act requiring county clerks to keep the board of health marriage form record and explaining that a further record is unnecessary.

Lastly, the attention of county clerks is respectfully called to the conclusions offered above in regard to record keeping. As an epitome of the writer's observations made in a large number of Illinois counties they are worth consideration, if for no other reason.

Appendix

LEGALITY OF LOOSE-LEAF RECORDS

416 Lincoln Hall,
Urbana, Illinois,
September 16, 1914.

The Honorable P. J. Lucey,
Attorney-General of Illinois,
Springfield, Illinois.

Dear Sir:

I am preparing a report to the General Assembly on the county records of Illinois for the Illinois State Historical Library. In this report, I intend to suggest certain modifications in present methods of record keeping and desire a legal opinion on the following points:

1. Is the "Board of Health form" marriage register usually kept, a sufficient register of marriage certificates to satisfy Chapter 89, section 11 of the 1913 Revised Statutes?

The Board of Health form includes besides the number and date of the license and various statistical information, the name of the bride and groom, the place and date of marriage, the witnesses, the name and office or position of the person certifying, the date of the return and the date it was registered.

2. Is a loose leaf record book a "well bound book" in the sense of Chapter 115, section 9, and Chapter 25,

section 16 of the Revised Statutes? The type of loose-leaf book I have in mind can be opened with a key until completed and then is bound mechanically so that the only way of removing a leaf is to tear it out.

I shall be very grateful for an opinion on these two points, and trust that I have made them clear.

Very truly yours,
THEODORE C. PEASE
Inspector of County Archives

STATE OF ILLINOIS
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
SPRINGFIELD, September 19, 1914.

MR. THEODORE C. PEASE,
416 Lincoln Hall,
Urbana, Illinois.

DEAR SIR:

In your favor of the 16th instant, you desire to know in what form the registry of marriage certificates should be kept.

In reply thereto, I will say that any form which complies with the provisions of paragraph 11, chapter 89, Hurd's Revised Statutes, 1913, is sufficient. Said paragraph provides that the county clerk, upon receiving a marriage certificate from the official performing the marriage ceremony, shall make a registry thereof in a book kept for that purpose, which registry shall contain the Christian and surname of the parties to the marriage, the time of the marriage and the name of the person certifying the same. The county clerk shall also endorse upon such certificate presented to him the time when the same is registered and shall number and carefully preserve the same.

You further desire to know whether a loose leaf record book is a well bound book within the meaning of the several statutory provisions requiring records to be kept in a well bound book.

The expression "well bound books" or "a well bound book" frequently appears in the statutes where officers are required to keep records. Loose leaf records are an innovation which stenographers, typewriters, increased correspondence and the constantly increasing size of records have necessitated for the economical transaction of business. How far the term "well bound book" will give way to the use of loose leaf records can only be determined by the courts.

The records of instruments, in the office of the recorder of deeds and in the office of circuit clerk, are open to the inspection of the public. The original instruments are often lost or mislaid. The title to property, amounting in value to vast sums, is often dependent upon the records in these offices. Everything that will tend to the preservation of such records should be observed. While a loose leaf record may be a well bound book and may be locked so that the loose leaves cannot be removed, still the lock may be unlocked, or left unlocked, and leaves removed much easier than in a record wherein leaves are tightly bound.

I am therefore of the opinion that the recorder of deeds and the circuit clerk should record instruments in well bound books wherein the leaves are tightly bound and that the use of loose leaf records would not be a compliance with the law.

Very respectfully,

P. J. Lucey,

563–B Attorney General

As the foregoing opinion in so far as it relates to loose-leaf records is based on an interpretation of facts rather than of law, it may be permissible for a layman to suggest the arguments from fact on the other side.

First, it is clear that the one point of advantage in a bound volume over a loose-leaf is the impossibility of removing a leaf from the former without leaving traces of one's work. It is perfectly possible to cut or tear leaves from a bound folio; except in certain Chicago offices, and in a few small county offices where the clerk's desk is in plain view of his record shelves, I would undertake to do this to any record not in current use without being caught in the act. In case of such mutilation the courts in hearing pleas for the reinstatement of the record involved would probably admit as circumstantial evidence of its existence both entries relating to it in indexes or entry books, and the mutilated condition of the volume. Since a document recorded in a loose-leaf volume would be entered and indexed precisely as if in a bound book, the case against the loose-leaf reduces to this—that no trace of the mutilation would appear in the volume.

In abatement of this point it may be pleaded that loose-leaf books of the type usually employed for record purposes can be tampered with only while in process of formation. A loose-leaf volume while in process of formation can be opened for the insertion or removal of pages only with a key, and by the removal of a steel rod from the back when completed, may be as permanently fastened as an ordinary bound book. When a loose-leaf record is either locked or bound, a leaf can no more be torn from it without leaving a visible torn edge than from an ordinary book.

A few precautions may be suggested which in a small office would make the one book practically as safe as the other. First, the pages of a loose-leaf record should be numbered with a consecutive numbering stamp as fast as inserted. In case a document were fraudulently removed, the missing page number would thus betray its absence. Second, all loose-leaf records should be indexed as soon as made. Third, loose-leaf records should be fitted with high grade locks. Fourth, when still uncompleted, they should be carefully watched. If he observes these precautions, a clerk in a small office should think it no hardship to be held strictly accountable for pages lost from his loose-leaf volumes.

Exercise of the foregoing precautions should avert any danger arising from the use of a loose-leaf record, except the danger of foul play by a dishonest clerk or deputy; and a dishonest clerk or deputy can tamper as easily with a bound record as with a loose-leaf one. It is interesting to note that the willingness of a clerk to assume the responsibility entailed on him by a loose-leaf record is apt to vary inversely with the number of his assistants. The heads of departments in Cook county offices that employ two hundred clerks hold up their hands in horror at the very mention of a loose-leaf record; the clerk in the average large down-state office with five or six assistants is frankly skeptical; and the officer with two or three deputies is uncertain; while the competent recorder who, with a son or daughter to assist him, does all his own work, is usually frankly in favor of the device. Not only is it in the smallest counties, where the success of bound printed-form volumes is most problematical, that the loose-leaf record should be of the greatest service; it is in these counties that it can be used with safety.

II. Clerk of the Circuit Court

The first mention of circuit courts in legislation[1] affecting the present state of Illinois is in an act of the Northwest territory, adopted in 1795, which prescribed that the judges of the general court hold court in the various counties of the territory.[2] As a separate territory, Illinois imposed on the judges of its supreme court a similar duty, and since its admission to the union has grouped its counties into judicial circuits varying in number, and presided over at some periods by justices of the supreme court and at others by a distinct class of judges.[3] The latter practice has prevailed since 1848. In each county a clerk of the circuit court, at first appointed by the circuit judge, but since 1848 an elective officer, has custody of the records of the circuit court.[4]

[1] The following pages in no sense purport to be a history of local government in Illinois. They are merely designed to sketch such legislation as results in the accumulation of county records. Accordingly many important functions and duties of county officers will go unmentioned, simply because they do not produce records.

[2] *Maxwell's code*, p. 48. See also *Laws adopted by the governor and judges of the Indiana territory, at their first sessions held at Saint Vincennes January 12th, 1801*, p. 18. The general court of the Northwest territory held its terms in the various counties of the territory; but the word circuit was not used. (*Laws passed in the territory of the United States, north-west of the river Ohio, from the commencement of the government to the 31st of December, 1791*, pp. 15, 44.) The act of 1795 is the first to distinguish the terms held at the seat of the court from the terms in the counties.

[3] In 1835 the supreme judges were relieved from the circuit duty formerly assigned them. (*Laws of 1835*, p. 150.) But in 1841 a law designed to pack the supreme court for a political decision required the supreme judges to return to circuit duty, a lot from which they were relieved by the constitution of 1848. (*Laws of 1841*, p. 173.) Since that date the two orders of judges have been distinct.

[4] In 1788 a law of the Northwest territory established county courts of common pleas held by appointees of the governor. (*Laws passed in the territory of the United States, north-west of the river Ohio, from the commencement of the government to the 31st of December, 1791*, pp. 7 *et seq.*) In 1805 a court similarly named was given all the jurisdiction of the former courts of quarter sessions, orphans' court, and common pleas courts. (*Laws passed at the first session of*

Generally speaking the circuit court has unlimited primary jurisdiction in common law, chancery, and criminal cases, and also appellate jurisdiction in the case of appeals from justices of the peace.[1] By virtue of various acts it has from time to time enjoyed certain special jurisdictions. Thus an act of 1821 assigned it the duty of ordering sales of real estate in probate cases,[2] and another in 1839 that of giving judgment against real estate on which taxes were unpaid—a duty transferred to the county judge in 1849.[3] Further, a series of early acts required the circuit clerk to issue and register Negro certificates of freedom; and federal statutes in addition have assigned the court jurisdiction in the naturalization of aliens. In spite of these exceptions, however, the great mass of the court's records are the result of ordinary litigation.[4]

The importance for social history of the records of

the general assembly of the Indiana territory, 15.) In 1814 a law of Illinois territory vested the nonjudicial jurisdictions of the common pleas court in the new county court. The supreme court, sitting in the various counties, took over the common pleas judicial practice, as well as cases pending in two general courts formerly held at Kaskaskia and Cahokia, and the court ceased to exist. (*Pope's digest*, 312, 333, 343, 345.) In 1816 legal jurisdiction was again divided between circuit courts and a court of appeals. (*Laws passed by the legislative council and house of representatives of Illinois territory, 1815–16*, p. 48; *Laws passed by the legislative council and house of representatives of Illinois territory, 1816–17*, p. 27.) In 1818 the court of appeals' jurisdiction was divided between two general courts sitting at Kaskaskia and Shawneetown. (*Laws passed by the general assembly of Illinois Territory, 1817-18*, p. 90.) The act of 1819 left the jurisdiction of these two courts to the supreme court.

[1] Act of March 23, 1819, *Laws of 1819*, p. 195; act of March 31, 1819, *ibid.*, 380.

[2] *Laws of 1821*, p. 72.

[3] Act of February 8, 1849, *1 Laws of 1849*, pp. 122, 125; *Laws of 1839*, p. 13.

[4] An act of March 30, 1819, required free Negroes to bring the certificates or evidence of their freedom to the clerk of the circuit court for record, and further to register their families with him. (*Laws of 1819*, p. 354.) The clerk was further required to issue such certificates to Negroes already residents on demand. An act of February 19, 1841 allowed a Negro on entering the state to register the names of his family and also evidence of their freedom. (*Laws of 1841*, p. 189.) The commissioner for the census was required to report to the clerk of the circuit court. Act of December 27, 1824, *Laws of 1825*, p. 33.

courts of local jurisdiction such as this is coming more and more to be recognized by historical students. Such court records, by revealing the crimes most frequently committed and the penalties inflicted, afford an index to the moral standards of past and present generations. Common law and chancery records afford interesting information on business methods and property relations, though the records as they come more and more to be stereotyped forms lose this interest. The defect is fully atoned for, however, by the transcripts of evidence that may be found for recent cases appealed to higher courts. One of them, for example, may preserve a lawyer's attempt to elicit from a witness the fact that the community considered a thrifty old farmer had grown so "queer" that overreaching him in a trade was no longer ethical. Such a record exactly perpetuates that part of a generation's standards and habits of life which ordinarily is most fugitive.[1]

When considered from the point of view of archive economy, the circuit clerk's records present the same problems that in different forms appear elsewhere in the county record rooms. Among these problems may be specified, the determination of the point of balance between printed forms and longhand or typed entries at which the maximum economy of space will result, the usefulness of loose-leaf records, the utilization of the vault space wasted by printed-form books that have been half filled and then abandoned,

[1]In addition, the Negro freedom papers, etc., recorded with the circuit clerk afford us light on the puzzling but interesting question of the extent to which slavery survived in the state—though of course these must be studied with the records of indentures and the tax lists to be found in the county clerk's office.

and the best methods of filing and protecting papers. To be specific, the formal record of the court's proceedings suggests the question as to the degree of economy in the use of printed forms for the recording of formal orders; the naturalization record, which always follows one of several different forms, is a more extreme case of the same problem; the court fee books are a less extreme one. The dockets are an object lesson in the economy of the loose-leaf docket over the bound book. And lastly from the archival sins of omission and commission sinned by court clerks in filing papers, texts for a dozen sermons might be drawn.

Legislation has determined the general character of the court record proper—the formal record of proceedings had before the circuit judge such as motions, trials, decisions, verdicts. A series of laws in the twenties repeatedly forbade clerks to keep a "complete record" unless one of the parties specifically requested that it be kept, or title to real estate was involved. The "complete record" that in many clerks' offices has been kept down to recent times in separate volumes is usually a record of the testimony of witnesses, depositions, etc., in certain special cases. But the record proper of the circuit court has remained a mere formal entry of the more important proceedings toward the legal adjudication of cases.[1]

[1] An act of March 31, 1819, required clerks to keep complete records of all proceedings and determinations of the court. (*Laws of 1819*, p. 381, sec. 33.) An act of March 30 required the clerk to keep a complete record of all the passages, evidence, etc., at the trial of a case in which title to land was not involved only when a party to the suit required him to do so. (*Ibid.*, 350.) Two years later, section 33 of the act of March 31 was repealed in so far as it might be presumed to require a complete record in cases where real estate was not involved. (*Laws of 1821*, p. 11.) There is a similar act in the *Laws of 1816-17*, p. 65. The interpretation put on the section seems forced. The prohibition was repeated in an act of January 29, 1827, and the act of February 21, 1845. *Laws of 1827*, p. 316; *Laws of 1845*, p. 40.

In almost every county the circuit court record exhibits an interesting evolution. It begins ordinarily with a small, blue, paper-covered book, and in volume after volume increases in both size of page and thickness, till at last it attains the large folio size and the five hundred page volume that ordinarily is used throughout county record offices. The records show also a tendency to differentiation that in the majority of counties is almost uniform. In the beginning law, chancery, and criminal suits are all recorded in the same volume, but ordinarily about 1850—the date, may however, be as early as the thirties or as late as the sixties—chancery comes first to be recorded in a separate volume and then to be assigned a series of its own; later this series also may be differentiated into a court record and a decree record. It is easy to see why chancery should be so set apart, for the recording of a chancery suit requires the entering at length of long papers, that do not—as in common law and criminal proceedings—adhere to conventional forms. Law and criminal records do not branch into separate volumes or separate series till the period 1870-1875. Exceptions in past and present practices to the above statements can be cited, but they represent the ordinary process of development in the court record proper.

Separate records for court action in the naturalization of aliens have been used almost without exception for half a century.[1] The material recorded has varied from time to time, but till recently has included for each adult alien, first the declaration of his intention

[1] In naturalizing, circuit judges have enforced statutes of the United States, for with the single exception of fixing fees for naturalization, the state has passed no legislation on the subject. What is here said of naturalization records applies especially to the period before 1906.

to become a citizen of the United States, and second his application for final papers, which includes his oath, the affidavits of his witnesses to his continuous residence in the United States, his renunciation of foreign allegiance, and his admission to United States citizenship; in the case of a minor alien whose father died before taking out final papers, or in the case of a soldier or sailor honorably discharged from the service of the United States, the declaration of intention is unnecessary. As the statutes have prescribed exact forms for these records, even the smallest counties have usually procured separate books of printed forms for use in recording them.

The older county naturalization records are an excellent object lesson of the havoc that results when printed records are not carefully used. Small counties, far inland, removed from the main routes of immigration, have bought large folios of naturalization forms and have seen them first acquire dust on the shelves in idleness, and then, after a new federal statute or departmental regulation has prescribed new forms, go into disuse. Worse still, from 1872 to 1906, the waste went on concurrently in the county court. Indeed, in examining the records of a county, one comes to look as a matter of course for one naturalization record book ending abruptly in 1896 or 1898, a second beginning and ending in 1902, 1903 or 1904, and a third terminating in 1906, and not one of them a tenth used! Very often there are separate books of declarations, of final papers, of minors' papers, of soldiers' and sailors' papers, or perhaps books presenting a combination of these. If these volumes do not repose in an unfit

storeroom and accustom the clerk to the idea that any place is good enough for old records, they take up precious room in the vault.

The problem, however, has finally reached a solution that perhaps is applicable to other county records. Since 1906 all books for naturalization have been supplied to the circuit clerks by the United States bureau of immigration and have remained the property of the United States government. The forms are furnished in small volumes—for small counties volumes of fifty pages, which preclude all chance of waste. The system is one that could well be applied by the state government to such registers of licenses as the counties now or in the future may be required to keep.[1]

All this naturally prompts consideration of the extent to which printed forms may be used successfully with the court record proper. In many instances such forms have been used with success in the case of common law proceedings. These usually follow certain well-defined forms, some of which, such as the confession of judgment in term and in vacation,[2] and the entering of judgment by default, occur so often that even in small counties separate printed records for them appear practicable. Such records have been very generally used, and, it is true, have not always been successful; like many other printed record books,

[1] There has been comparatively little waste in the recording of physicians' certificates so far, as each county has not more than one or two volumes of printed forms of them. In the case of nurses' certificates, a few counties of their own accord are utilizing smaller books that may prevent waste. But in the case of stallion licenses, counties ordinarily have purchased books that seem to be too large. The form prescribed for such certificates has already been changed once by legislative enactment. Since the policy of the state seems more and more to direct the recording of such certificates with the county officers, future legislation might well include some provision for the supply of the requisite printed-form records.

[2] Sometimes entitled a "narr. & cognovit."

they have been abandoned after a few years but half used. In this instance, it is difficult to see why economical printed forms cannot be devised. For criminal records not more than two forms ordinarily have been used—one a record of the discharge of a prisoner on his recognizance, and the other of prisoners' paroles. The former has been generally in use since 1868 or 1869, and the latter only for the last few years. Neither book has filled up rapidly, leading one to conclude that if the forms employed have not been misfits, the books procured have certainly been too large.

Chancery records are the circuit clerk's most difficult problem in record keeping. Unlike common law and criminal procedure, chancery does not follow conventional forms; its very nature implies that it must deal differently with each suit. Accordingly the papers that must be spread on the court records, such as bills, awards, partitions, masters' reports, and decrees are of varying form and often of considerable length. This fact has made the use of a printed form record impracticable in the majority of counties; and a printed book containing forms of foreclosure, decree of sale, partition, and divorce, adopted a few years ago by many offices, has either been discontinued, or else is little used. In Cook county courts printed forms are used for divorce and foreclosure, but even here the economy of space is not perfect. In most counties the chancery record seems fated to occupy a long series of volumes, typewritten or written in longhand.

To the smaller county, it is true, the loose-leaf chancery record offers some relief. In Coles county especially it has been employed with marked success for partition records. Clerks urge in its favor the fact

that it enables them to keep together all the proceedings of a partition suit—petition, report, and decree—which ordinarily in a case extending over several terms of court would be in different parts of one or more volumes. On the other side it may be said that such a use of it would make it impossible to number the pages until the volume is completed. However, the general arguments for and against the introduction of the loose-leaf record into court work have been considered elsewhere.[1]

In the majority of counties the fee books—the registers of the court fees earned and collected in each case—are printed form records and very wasteful ones. The forms ordinarily used allot to each case a separate page which exhibits a triumph of the typesetter's art. It is ruled, divided, and subdivided, so that it may contain printed lists of thirty or forty possible fees in civil, criminal, and chancery cases. Small flanking subdivisions of the page contain separate spaces for the fees of witnesses, sheriff, constable, and justice of the peace, and for their signatures in receipt. The necessity of using different forms of this masterpiece for common law, chancery, and criminal cases, together with frequent changes in the law prescribing the amounts of fees have helped to load up county vaults with half-used fee books. The printed-form fee book, it is true, has its advantages. Probably it is advantageous for the clerk of a small office to have his scale of fees constantly on the page before him. Some clerks, moreover, aver that in accounting for fees they have collected for others, they find that the various subdivisions afford a convenient check on the final

[1] See *ante*, xli–xlv.

balance. But these advantages cannot atone for the waste in volume after volume of two-thirds to three-fourths of each record page.

The fee book, indeed, in its evolution has passed through forms distinctly preferable to the present one.[1] The earliest fee books are often paper-bound ledgers such as formerly were used for recording of grocery bills, and the details of fees are scribbled down the long columns with little more care than that employed by the grocer's clerk. In the fifties and sixties a better record came into use: a folio ruled in ledger fashion, in which the fees of three or four cases were sometimes entered on a single page, separated only by horizontal ruling. In some counties, notably the larger ones, this form has survived with the addition of a printed sentence or two. The page is cross-ruled and divided to hold the records of three cases, the amount of the docket fee is printed in each division, and a blank space is left for the entry of additional fees as they accrue. In some counties such as Vermilion, not even this form is used, and all entry is done by hand. A return from the printed form to either of the above would be advantageous.

Of the various circuit-court records known as dockets, the judgment and execution dockets are at once the most important and the most carefully kept. They are sufficiently described by the act of 1827 which directs clerks to enter all judgments or decrees

[1] Fee books were prescribed to the clerks by an act of January 17, 1825, but in the majority of cases they do not appear much before 1835 or 1840. (*Laws of 1825*, p. 147; *Laws of 1833*, p. 297.) The clerk's fee book, however, is mentioned in earlier statutes. See the Indiana act of 1804. (*Laws passed at the first session of the general assembly of the Indiana territory*, 53.) Obviously the intent of the fee book originally was to prevent clerks from taking advantage of the multiplicity of small fees to cheat litigants.

alphabetically, showing the names of parties, the date, the nature of the judgment, the amount of the debt, damages and costs, references to the court record, and entry of satisfaction by execution or otherwise.[1] Whenever, therefore, a judgment for a sum of money is entered by the court against a party to a proceeding before it, the details regarding it are registered in this docket, together with any execution against personal property or real estate issued in pursuance of the judgment. As an unsatisfied judgment is a potential lien for seven years on real estate owned by the person against whom it is obtained, the judgment docket is of the first importance in establishing the fact that a given property is unincumbered. For many years judgments and executions were docketed in different books, but in most counties they have been kept since the seventies in the judgment and execution docket. This book has additional spaces opposite each judgment entered for the entry of the various executions issued and for memoranda of the returns on them.

The docketing of mechanics' liens in a separate book for most counties dates from about the year 1887,[2] when the legislature prescribed a form by which mechanics or contractors might file liens for services against the owners of the buildings and real estate on which they had worked or for which they had supplied material. The act prescribed as the form of the docket the name of the lienor, the amount of the lien, the date of filing, person and property filed against. The record as kept practically follows this order. It should

[1] The *Revised code of 1827* (p. 318), prescribed also the entering in a separate book of the sheriffs' returns on executions.

[2] Act of May 31, 1887, *Laws of 1887*, p. 219.

be noted, however, that as early as 1833 the law had prescribed that suits for mechanics' liens be docketed in the common law docket.[1]

Of the court dockets proper, the general docket is the only one for which the association of name and form in any degree persists from county to county. The revision of 1874,[2] directed the keeping of a docket "in which shall be entered all suits in order commenced." As kept it usually includes the date the suit was begun and entered, the general and term numbers assigned it, the attorneys and parties to the suit, the party appealing, the court from which appeal was taken, the action, the process, issues, and remarks. It may begin indeed in the fifties. The form used in Cook county varies from that given above, different forms being used in the circuit and superior offices, but the character of the record remains the same.

As to the various term dockets, judges' dockets, clerks' dockets, and bar dockets, the legal prescription for them is found in acts of 1827 and 1872,[3] which direct circuit clerks each term to furnish the judge and the bar with copies of a docket, detailing for each case the names of parties, cause of action,

[1] *Laws of 1833*, p. 448. An act of February 14, 1863 required the clerks of Cook, Alexander, Union, Peoria, Williamson, Bureau, Putnam, Marshall, Woodford, Pulaski, Edgar, Marion, Franklin, Henry, Fulton, and De Kalb to keep dockets of mechanics' and laborers' liens. (*Laws of 1863*, p. 57.) The act was extended to Adams county in 1865, and in 1867 to Lake, McHenry, Boone, Winnebago, Peoria, Marshall, Stark, Putnam, Knox, Mason, Fulton, Kane, Du Page, Will, Coles, St. Clair and Hancock, but was repealed altogether in 1869. (*Laws of 1865*, p. 91; *1 Laws of 1867*, p. 133; act of April 5, 1869, *Laws of 1869*, p. 257.) Why these counties should have been singled out is difficult to determine. The act of 1869 provided, however, for a mechanics' liens list of more rudimentary form. The *Revised statutes, 1874* (p. 666), directed that mechanics' liens be docketed as chancery actions.

[2] *Revised statutes, 1874*, p. 262.

[3] Act of January 29, 1827, *Laws of 1827*, p. 312; *Laws of 1871-72*, p. 338. Earlier acts, however, refer to the clerk as docketing cases, or apportioning them on the docket.

and plaintiff's attorney. The books ordinarily made in pursuance of this act and termed clerks' dockets and judges' dockets are lists of the cases set for trial each term, giving the number, the title, the attorneys, the action, the court's order at the last term the case came up, and a space for the order of the court at the term for which the docket is prepared. The series of such dockets are often fragmentary, and very often the volumes are insufficiently labeled and dated. The bar docket is apt to be even more fragmentary and often gives merely the number, action, parties, and attorneys. At best all these dockets are rough registers, and important only because—in the case of clerks' or judges' dockets—the court record is written up from the minutes they contain.

The loose-leaf principle has been applied to dockets in many counties with marked success. The older practice of writing up a separate docket for each term wastes space and time. Before a case is finally adjudicated, it may easily come up at ten or twelve terms, and be docketed in ten or twelve term dockets which finally will help to load the vault with old books. In the loose-leaf docket, on the contrary, one page is used for each case, the particulars of number, action, attorneys, etc., being entered on a heading, and the various orders of the court from term to term on ruled lines below. When the case is finally adjudicated, the leaf is removed to a storage binder. This system, while it could not be safely tried in a large county, is undoubtedly an economy in a small one.

One or two less important forms of record may here be mentioned briefly and dismissed. Chief among them is the record of transcripts from justices of the

peace. Under acts of 1819 and 1821 such transcripts were filed in the clerk's office in case of *certiorari*, appeal, or levy on real estate.[1] An act of 1847[2] required that the clerk record in a well-bound book all transcripts filed for the purpose of obtaining executions against real estate. The transcript so recorded, the law directed, was to include a copy of the original and each subsequent summons or process issued by the justice, the judgment, and the return on any executions issued, and the certificate of the justice of the peace to the transcript. A record of this sort in the great majority of counties has been kept since 1848 and the years immediately succeeding, although in many it does not appear till 1855–1861, and in a few not until the seventies and eighties. As kept at present it ordinarily is a printed-form book whose pages are prepared on the same model as the ordinary justice of the peace docket —summons at the top, fees of justice and constable on the margin, and the action of the justice court at length on the page.

Several other types of book record have been kept intermittently. Apart from the register of receipts and expenditures that circuit clerks like other officials have begun at varying dates,[3] the reports of the states' attorneys—of fees received, etc.—have at various times been recorded in books, though usually not earlier than 1872 or 1873. Since 1872 a few of the counties at irregular times have recorded indictments, but at present this is seldom done.[4]

[1] Act of March 23, 1819, *Laws of 1819*, pp. 189 *et seq.*; act of February 12, 1821, *Laws of 1821*, p. 130; *Laws of 1827*, pp. 259 *et seq.*

[2] *Laws of 1847*, p. 56.

[3] See the *Laws of 1871-72*, p. 450.

[4] The law at present prescribes that they shall be recorded when the judge directs. *Revised statutes, 1913*, ch. 38, sec. 413.

Last of all may be mentioned the index to the court records. In the majority of counties it dates back to 1858 in consequence of an act of 1865 requiring that the court records be indexed for seven years back. The form thus prescribed is elaborate and excellent, containing spaces for reference not only to the record proper, but also to the fee book, judgment docket, execution docket, the records of certificates of levy, sale, and redemption, etc. In addition it contains the particulars of the case, the title, the kind of action, and the time it was commenced and disposed of. In many cases the application to this index of the loose-leaf principle has secured perfect economy.[1]

Besides book records, the circuit clerk preserves the documents pertaining to the cases adjudicated in the court, each case in its own wrapper. In most instances these files date back as far as the book records. Where the earlier files are missing it probably is due to the fact that in the small rough office of the frontier county, papers could easily go astray. The content of the case papers varies from period to period and at best is difficult to define exactly. Thus an early criminal case file may contain only the indictment and the verdict. Later ones may also include depositions, subpœnas, jury lists, judges' instructions, motions, etc. In a civil case the file may include the document or note on which the action was brought, the summons, perhaps the subpœnas, and the verdict. Chancery files are necessarily more important than law files as they contain the papers representing the various stages of the suit—declarations, pleadings, bills, sum-

[1] *Laws of 1865*, p. 79; act of June 16, 1887, *Laws of 1887*, p. 128.

mons, orders, decrees, etc.[1] In 1847 the legislature prescribed[2] that instructions to the jury must thereafter be in writing. This has led indirectly to the looting of the court files of counties on the old eighth circuit by searchers for instructions drawn by the hand of the senior partner of Lincoln and Herndon. And as one lawyer regretfully told the writer, there are no more to be found!

For historical purposes this material has no distinctive value apart from the records accompanying it. Sometimes early case papers are amusing—indictments, for instance, in drawing which an overzealous and careful prosecutor has thought it necessary to reiterate all previous allegations at the beginning of each sentence. Interesting also are the diminutive slips of paper on which our grandfathers made out summons and subpœna and execution and warrant—slips often an inch and a half by four inches in size. However, except for the pleadings, etc., in chancery suits, the essential facts of the cases are concealed by the form of the documents, and at best they can tell us nothing but facts of names, indictments, verdicts—information of value only when tabulated. Yet even such material should emphatically not be condemned to destruction unexamined. The vital fact necessary to illumine a seemingly unimportant or meaningless book record may be concealed in these papers, and accordingly they should be saved until a careful examination has proved that they can add no information to that contained in the bound court records.

[1] The question has indeed been raised with the writer whether this material is not so important as to deserve being recorded at length.

[2] Act of February 25, 1847, *Laws of 1847*, p. 63.

The methods of filing and preserving case papers as well as the relative degrees of care bestowed on the various divisions of them have been determined by the demands of the lawyer rather than the historical student. Some lawyer in course of business may find a use for the earliest chancery papers, and chancery papers are usually filed carefully in the main vault. Generally common law papers in a quarter of a century have passed their usefulness, and therefore, in case the vault space is overcrowded, the earlier files are apt to take up their quarters in the storeroom. Criminal papers are likely to be called for only by persons curious to discover the shortcomings of their neighbors or political rivals, and usually are "dead" in five years. Accordingly, unless the office is extraordinarily well equipped with filing equipment, these papers, perhaps the most valuable in the office to the historical student, are cast into outer darkness.[1]

Various methods of indexing case papers are employed. Perhaps the best is to arrange the case files in the order in which the cases were first docketed,[2] assign them while in that order a sequence of numbers, and then index them alphabetically in a book or on cards. Another system occasionally used is to sort the files without regard to date by the first letters of plaintiffs' names into boxes similarly labeled. When so arranged the files are sometimes indexed alphabetically and

[1] In the smaller counties one notes a tendency to maintain files distinct from the case papers proper for miscellaneous papers. Some of these, such as the state's attorneys' reports, reports of coroners' inquests, mechanics' liens, and reports of county officers, could not well be included in files of case papers, but others, such as executions, justice of peace transcripts, masters' reports, confessions, bench warrants, receipts for prisoners by wardens of the penitentiaries, if filed with the proper cases would simplify the office files and bring a larger proportion of documents within the scope of the index to case papers.

[2] Sometimes they are numbered as disposed of.

sometimes not. Sometimes the cases when thus arranged are numbered beginning with "A" and then kept entirely by number. In a few counties the cases have been numbered in whatever confused order they happened to stand, and have then been indexed to the numbers thus assigned.

Of these methods the first seems to be the best. To illustrate the confusion that may result from the latter systems, it may be said that often when they are used it is literally impossible to determine the date at which a county's case papers begin without a three or four hour search in which case after case from the court record is laboriously checked through the index to the files in order to determine whether or not the file is extant. The chronological system of filing enables a historical worker to separate out without trouble the cases of a particular period, and at the same time enables the lawyer or clerk searching for a particular case to find it easily through an ordinary alphabetical index. In case the papers of a small county are arranged in boxes under the letters of the alphabet, it may, true enough, be possible for a lawyer to find a case without the index, but the advantage is counterbalanced by the fact that as papers accumulate it becomes more laborious to search all the boxes bearing a given letter than to consult an index.[1]

[1] At this point a digression to the question of the safe keeping of case papers may be permitted. Of course the files of current cases are being constantly used by lawyers; and although papers are filed in duplicate sets, the duplicate is often taken away, and the original alone left to be shown to inquirers. In small offices where the clerk and perhaps one or two deputies do all the work, the lawyers, who have free access to the vaults, help themselves to any original papers they desire, and frequently carry them off without receipting for them. Papers thus removed are often lost or mislaid and never returned. It is not likely that unscrupulous men could very easily defeat justice in this manner, and to exclude all persons from the vault and give out papers only on receipt would in many cases require an extra clerk. But while a solution of the difficulty in the average small office is not easily suggested, it is nevertheless true that the present condition is not a good one.

Two or three different types of filing material are in ordinary use. In a few counties the files are in pigeonholes where they accumulate dust and are easily disarranged. In others they are laid flat in old-fashioned pasteboard or tin boxes made to fit into pigeonholes. So disposed they are safe enough, except for fire, unless the boxes fall out and strew their contents on the floor, or are filled so full that the files crush. In the majority of offices, however, comparatively good and modern steel filingboxes are used. These boxes have a front, slightly larger than the document to be filed, which fits into the cases, and the documents stand upright in a tray behind it, and are clamped by a steel clamp at the back. Unless properly handled, filing boxes of this type can play worse havoc with a set of papers than almost anything else, even mice. If a box is filled too full, it becomes impossible to take a paper out and replace it without crumpling it and crushing the tops of the surrounding papers; if the examiner is in haste the paper is frequently left half in and half out and serves to jam the box into the case, where it sticks until the next inquirer in impatience pulls it out by main force, tearing one or a dozen papers by so doing. Whatever is done or not done with files, they should not be kept in a box too full to permit of the clamp working easily.

Almost as much mischief can be done by filing loose papers of varying heights in the same box. This is especially true if the larger papers are of inferior stock. An instance is afforded in certain counties where the case papers of the twenties and thirties—small, tightly folded bits of heavy paper—are filed with the larger and lighter papers of the forties and fifties. It will frequent-

ly happen under these circumstances that the earlier files will be perfectly preserved, and the later ones will be dust grimed, chipped, and crumpled by constant rubbing from the hands of persons in search of older papers.

The true remedy for such a condition is so far as possible to file all documents pertaining to each case in a heavy manila wrapper or filing envelope. Preferably this envelope should be made so that both ends and sides may be folded down, and should be tied with tape and not fastened with a rubber band. An envelope with all four sides and ends folding down over the papers would meet all ordinary variations in the amount of papers filed, and would effectually prevent all rubbing of the sort mentioned. This is still another reason for filing all papers connected with a case in the case papers. A better scheme yet, though possibly one not quite so economical of space, would be to file all papers flat in ordinary paper envelopes such as are used for filing correspondence, and to stand them on edge in a large drawer. Except in cases where the documents filed were few and brief, this method would probably not waste much space, and by obviating the necessity of folding papers and creasing or cracking them would greatly prolong their life.

For several reasons the records of the circuit clerk are an excellent introduction to the other county records; they follow a few comparatively simple and closely related series, which at the same time are sufficiently extensive to permit the effects of various methods of record keeping to be traced. Accordingly

it has seemed best to allot extra space to consideration of the records of the office and the problems they afford. In the light of the foregoing detailed discussion of the circuit clerk's office, similar records or problems in other offices can be summarily discussed and dismissed.

III. Recorder

The recorder's office naturally presents itself for consideration along with the circuit clerk's; for in the great majority of counties the two offices have been administered by the same person since 1849. Till that year the office of recorder had been independent of the other county clerkships. Established by an act of the Northwest territory in 1795, it was continued by acts of the Indiana territory and of the state of Illinois. Till 1835, recorders were appointed by the territorial or state governors, and after that date elected by popular vote of their counties. In 1849 the legislature, availing itself of the option accorded it by the constitution of 1848, made the circuit clerk ex-officio recorder. In 1872, following the provisions of the constitution of 1870, separate recorders' offices were established in counties with population in excess of sixty thousand. Only thirteen counties, however, have so far attained the population necessary for separate offices.[1]

For the purposes of the present report the recorder's office and records may be considered entirely from the archivist's viewpoint. Since a recorder usually considers all his records as current, the historian has no cause to complain that in this office records of historical interest are neglected as "dead." Further the historical value of recorders' records has already been

[1] *Maxwell's code*, 102; act of February 19, 1819, *Laws of 1819*, pp. 18 *et seq.*; act of February 11, 1835, *Laws of 1835*, p. 166; act of February 12, 1849, *1 Laws of 1849*, p. 64; act of April 16, 1872, *Laws of 1871-72*, p. 645. There are mentions of a county register prior to 1795, with similar duties but no act defining them exists. See *Laws passed in the territory of the United States, north-west of the river Ohio, 1792*, p. 73. The *Revised code of 1827* (p. 378) provided for a state recorder to record deeds, etc., presented by nonresidents.

adequately discussed, and indeed is self-evident. Accordingly, once the records are made accessible to him by entry books and indexes the historical student here may well intrust the further care of his interests to the archivist.

Since it may almost be laid down as an axiom that no office of record is better than its indexes, the question of the recorder's entry books and indexes is of the first importance. Of indexes there are two distinct types, the "grantor-grantee index," which enables a searcher to trace a transfer of real estate by the name of a party involved, and the tract index which shows any and all transfers that affect or have affected title to a given piece of property. In grantor-grantee indexes the content of each transfer—parties, land involved, consideration, instrument, dates, book and page recorded—is registered in one part alphabetically under the name of the grantor, in the other under the name of the grantee. The tract index, on the other hand, follows the divisions of land as established either by United States surveys or the recorded plats of towns and villages. On the page set apart in it for each section or quarter section of a township or for each lot of a town plat, are noted all transfers that in any way affect title to the parcel in question. The grantor-grantee index supplies information as to the past or present real estate holdings of a person; the tract index, information as to the past and present owners of a particular tract of land.

It is apparent that the grantor-grantee index—the ordinary alphabetical index—is the one that naturally would first suggest itself; and in fact it has existed in one form or another from the first. Thus the act of 1829

defining the duties of the recorder required him to index each separate book of records.[1] In 1847 a new act required him to keep a complete index to all documents to be recorded.[2] The exact manner of keeping the indexes, however, varies from county to county. In some counties deeds and mortgages have been separately indexed since the fifties. In nearly all a separate index to marginal releases of mortgages has been used since 1905. In others separate indexes to chattel mortgages are kept.[3] Finally in one or two cases, the indexes to grantors and grantees assume the form of indexes to the entry book, and are bound in the same volumes with it.

The tract index is primarily the tool of a maker of abstracts of title. Every page of a well kept tract index is indeed a chain of title to the piece of land it concerns, and after the judgment dockets of county and circuit courts and records of tax sales have been searched to ascertain that within seven years no unsatisfied judgments lie against the owner, and the probate records have been examined for evidence of heirship, it needs only to be expanded by reference to the documents to be a complete abstract.[4] Where a record office lacks such an index, the abstracter must either keep one of his own, or else when searching for a title

[1] July 1, 1829, *Laws of 1829*, p. 116.

[2] Act of March 1, 1847, *Laws of 1847*, p. 69. An act of February 12, 1853 provided for record indexing in case the index was not well made or had been omitted entirely. *Laws of 1853*, p. 254. See also *Laws of 1851*, p. 80.

[3] This is really the logical system to follow, as the chattel mortgage does not affect real estate, and runs for but three years.

[4] In 1887 recorders in counties having distinct recorder's offices were allowed to keep indexes to judgments and to tax sales in case they also kept tract indexes. (June 16, 1887, *Laws of 1887*, p. 256.) So far, however, Cook is almost the only county where any such record is kept. The *Revised statutes, 1874* (p. 834), required recorders to keep tract indexes when required to do so by the county board.

discover the name of the original patentee, search for his name on the grantor index to discover the first transfer affecting the land, then search for the name of the grantee in the grantor index, and so continue.[1] However, it is needless to say that the tract index is an important adjunct in any search of the land records, and is valued accordingly by a good officer, though it is not surprising that a few recorders are at times inclined to regard the maintenance of the index as a task enjoined on them for the benefit of abstracters.

The entry book is the third of the general summaries of the recorders' records. It is simply a register of instruments filed for record in the order of filing, and specifies the number, date, parties, book and page of record, and the return of the document; also the land affected, the consideration, etc. The act of 1795, prescribed the keeping of a record of this type, and later acts have more carefully defined its content.[2] As was said above, the grantor-grantee index sometimes takes the form of an index to each volume of the entry book.

Turning next to the records proper, we may first dismiss a few comparatively unimportant ones. In 1849 the legislature prescribed the recording of the bonds of town collectors.[3] A separate record of this type in some instances was begun as early as 1850; but in many counties such bonds were recorded in the miscellaneous record till much later. Indeed 1889–1890 is almost the ruling date for the beginning of the record. In 1910 and 1911 recorders generally began a record of

[1] Or else by a similar process work back from the present holding.
[2] See also act of 1819, sec. 10, in *Laws of 1819*, p. 20.
[3] Act of April 16, 1849, *1 Laws of 1849*, p. 195.

stallion certificates issued by the state board of agriculture and presented for record in the various counties. These are recorded in printed-form books, usually three different forms being bound in one book for recording the certificates of pure bred, cross bred, and grade stallions, respectively, and three other forms in a second for the yearly renewals of the licenses. It is probable that the ordinary county has adopted altogether too bulky books for the purpose, and is likely to find the form changed or the record discontinued before they are used up.

Among the more important records, those of the county surveyors may claim first attention. Usually they are intermittent in character. Sometimes for long periods no survey records are extant, perhaps because none were made, perhaps because the records have been lost. In certain counties these records have an early beginning. In Clinton, Randolph, and St. Clair they date from 1829, in Clark from 1830, in La Salle from 1833, in Pike from 1834, and in Will, Tazewell, and Madison from 1835. Since 1885 the law has required that they be kept in the recorder's office.[1] Closely akin to the surveyor's record is the transcript of United States surveys in the county, procured either from the surveyor general of Illinois and Missouri at St. Louis, or from the custodian of the United States surveys at Springfield. Although the statutes require the counties to procure this record, a few have not done so.[2]

A still more important series, second only in importance to the great body of transfer records proper, is composed of the records of certificates of levy, sale, and

[1] Act of June 4, 1885, *Laws of 1885*, p. 249.
[2] *Revised statutes, 1874*, p. 1050.

redemption. Since 1841 it has been the duty of sheriffs when levying on real estate to record a certificate of levy in the county where the real estate lies—obviously that in it there might be some record of the lien.[1] Since 1845 the law has required both sheriffs and masters in chancery to record in the county where the real estate in question lies all certificates of purchase or of redemption from sale or foreclosure issued by them.[2] The record, which the act of 1841 directed to be kept in a separate volume, dates in a few counties from 1841 or thereabouts, and of recent years has been carried in printed books, some containing two or more forms. Very rarely does the record run to a greater length than a dozen volumes, and often it is limited to two or three.

The most important record in every recorder's office, as well as the most perplexing from the viewpoint of archive economy, is the record of deeds, mortgages, and other real estate transfers. In all instances it begins with the formation of the county. Its formal legal recognition and authorization came in the territorial acts which directed the recorder to provide parchment or good large books of royal or other large paper well bound and covered, and in them to record such instruments entitled to record as should be presented to him for that purpose. The series of records as begun is in its way a monument to the growth and development of the county. The small quarto volumes of manuscript records, often, in spite of the statute, on paper so inferior as to necessitate recopying, gradually

[1] Act of February 26, 1841, *Laws of 1841*, p. 181.

[2] *Revised statutes, 1845*, pp. 302, 305. See also the act of February 12, 1853, *Laws of 1853*, p. 229.

wax into large folios of printed forms, and increase till they are numbered in the hundreds and divided into new series.

To frame a general statement to cover the differentiations that in the various counties have taken place in this record is impossible. In the recorder's office in Chicago with only a few exceptions all volumes are numbered on the same series. In the ordinary county, however, the series have been divided. In the majority of cases, a separate series of mortgage records is begun in the fifties, although in a few counties, such as Tazewell, Bureau, and Boone, this is done twenty years earlier and in many more, twenty years later. In a few instances separate series of releases and of oil or gas leases have also been begun—the former at various dates and the latter usually in the first years of this century. In some counties separate records for articles of incorporation and for the certificates of election of trustees of Odd Fellows' lodges and other similar organizations are also to be found. In practically every county, plats are now recorded in a separate book with larger pages than the deed record. Such records have been begun at dates ranging from 1834 in Tazewell, to 1907 in Edwards.[1]

A separate series for chattel mortgages exists in some county seats and might well be established in all. The ephemeral character of chattel mortgages makes it desirable that they be kept separate from the perma-

[1] There is a series of acts providing for the recording of plats. An act of January 4, 1825 provides that the recorder record plats of towns laid out by the county commissioners or other persons. (*Laws of 1825*, p. 53.) By an act of March 5, 1891, he was to record relocations of railroad rights of way. (*Laws of 1891*, p. 183.) In general the most important plats filed for record with the recorder are those of towns laid out by public officers or by private persons.

nent records affecting real estate. Where chattel records are numbered in the same series with the mortgages and are later condemned to the basement they leave behind them unsightly numerical gaps. Chattel records should not only be numbered on a separate series, but also should be kept in a separate index and possibly in a separate entry book.

Indeed the legislature may find it advisable to permit the destruction of certain chattel mortgage records within a given time after the expiration of their validity. In its present form the record often has very little interest for the historical student, representing as it does the security taken by a company selling bicycles, pianos, organs, sewing machines, etc., on the instalment plan; and here an entry book can easily afford all information of value. Further, to allow the destruction of these records would for some counties only be to validate a present custom of destroying the old volumes outright or else leaving them in dusty cellar vaults or garrets, gradually to disintegrate with age and neglect.

Economy of space in records can be obtained only through economical methods of recording. Ordinarily recorders employ either books of blank forms to be filled out with pen and ink or book typewriter, blank books in which the instruments are entered at length by book typewriter or by longhand, or thirdly loose-leaf books whose leaves are filled out on an ordinary typewriter and then inserted in the volume. To determine a point of balance between these three methods, at which will be obtained maximum economy for all the hundred and two counties, is in view of the variation in the volume of recording impossible. The

individual clerks must be trusted to single out the methods best adapted to their offices. Here it is possible only to offer a few suggestions based on observation of the methods employed in various counties and of the results attained.

There can be no doubt that printed forms when properly handled will economize record space. With quitclaim and warranty deeds they have been used successfully ever since the early fifties, and since standard forms of these instruments have come into general use, the smallest county can fill volume after volume of printed forms without wasting a page. The successful use of printed forms with ordinary mortgages is more difficult. There is no one prevalent form as in the case of warranty or quitclaim deeds. Of mortgages there are, to name only a few, long forms, short forms, forms including insurance clauses or power to appoint a receiver, "cutthroat forms," and "equitable forms." There are, moreover, various forms of trust deeds, assignments of mortgage, and releases, any one of which may be presented for record. In certain counties clerks have endeavored to meet the problem by simplifying the practice. At their own expense they have distributed to lawyers printed mortgages corresponding to the forms of their record books, and they report good results in economy of space. Further, by ordering volumes with several different forms bound together and with blank pages for recording instruments that do not fit the forms, they have endeavored to maintain a balance in the printed forms they carry that will correspond to the proportions in instruments presented for record, and prevent record space in form books from lying idle. Undoubtedly both of these

methods are well-nigh essential to successful handling of printed forms with bound books.

There are even worse difficulties attending the use of printed forms for mortgage records. Almost any recorder will lay the responsibility for the major portion of his woes on the farm loan companies. At present a large proportion of rural mortgages are made by such companies—either local bankers or national insurance companies—or else by building loan associations. Each of these persons or companies usually has a special printed form which is very elaborate. At times it takes the shape of a trust deed or assignment of mortgage and frequently it is coupled with a release form equally elaborate. Printed-form records in such a case seem obvious, but very often when a company either changes its form or goes out of business in a locality—in county offices about the state one great insurance company is notorious for these practices—they result in wasted volumes in from one to forty counties. Here again the best remedies are the use of volumes containing a half-dozen different forms, and most of all, vigilance on the part of the clerks.

Finally, certain instruments drawn in unusual forms will always have to be recorded with pen or typewriter. In some cases such documents are now written on perforated sheets with an ordinary typewriter and inserted in a loose-leaf record. So far only miscellaneous papers are so recorded. In certain instances it would seem feasible to use printed form loose leaves. If the stationery companies would supply clerks with perforated leaves in the unusual forms in quantities of a dozen or less, to be inserted as needed in loose-leaf volumes, all the saving possible from printed forms could be ob-

tained without the slightest chance of waste space. The legality of the loose-leaf record, however, is at present questionable. Probably the blank book filled out with typewriter or pen must still be used for very many instruments.

IV. County Clerk

The records of the probate and county clerks, like those of the circuit clerk and recorder, are closely associated. The records in the second pair of offices, however, are far more complex than those in the first. The probate records, which in all but ten counties are kept by the county clerk, are more intricate than any other local court records; and the records of the county clerk's office proper—county court records, county board of supervisors' records, taxation records, vital statistics records—afford a variety and intricacy which far surpasses that on the other side of the courthouse, and can hardly be mastered without constant reference to the legislation producing it.

In the earliest Illinois counties the county commissioners' records, if traced back to the days of the Northwest territory, merge in the proceedings of a court whose name suggests to the historical student the administrative functions it was to assume—the court of general quarter sessions. As originally established this court was held by justices of the peace appointed in each county by the governor.[1] Its earlier jurisdiction was legal; and for some years it by no means enjoyed the monopoly of local government acquired by its successors, for one of its duties was setting off townships and appointing constables, overseers of the poor, and town clerks for them.[2] Further, the duty of appointing special commissioners of assessments was

[1] *Laws passed in the territory of the United States, north-west of the river Ohio, from the commencement of the government to the 31st of December, 1791*, pp. 7 *et seq.*

[2] *Ibid.*, 47.

assigned to its judicial rival, the common pleas court, and only gradually did the quarter sessions draw into its power complete control of them. Moreover,[1] till 1795, the power of granting tavern licenses was partly in the hands of the commissioners appointed by the governor,[2] and even after that year partly in the hands of the governor himself. The name of this court disappears from Illinois history in 1805 when the territorial assembly of Indiana intrusted the functions of the quarter sessions, common pleas, and orphans' courts to a common pleas court.[3] This court the Illinois territorial legislature abolished in 1814, giving its administrative functions to a county court, and its judicial powers to the supreme court.[4] The first state constitution transferred the county court's functions to three elected commissioners, who as the county commissioners' court exercised almost complete administrative control of the county. The rudimentary townships that had begun to take shape in territorial days disappeared soon after 1818.[5] Only toward 1848 did the administrative authority centered in the county commissioners' court begin to disintegrate.

The constitution of 1848 changed the system of county government in very important aspects. It created a county judge with civil and criminal jurisdiction, who in addition assumed the probate duties since 1821 exercised by the probate judge. It further

[1] *Laws passed in the territory of the United States north-west of the river Ohio, 1792*, p. 16; *ibid.*, 6.

[2] *Maxwell's code*, 96.

[3] *Laws passed in the first session of the general assembly of the Indiana territory*, 15.

[4] *Pope's digest*, 337, 345. An act of 1818 transferred these functions to three justices of the peace in each county.

[5] J. A. Fairlie, *Town and county government in Illinois*, 35.

left the counties free to choose between township organization and the old county organization. Counties electing the first were to be divided into corporate townships, which should each elect its member of a board of supervisors to administer county affairs. In case a county rejected township organization the county judge and two elected associates assumed the function of the old board.[1]

The constitution of 1870, as interpreted by legislative action in 1872, left the counties the alternative of township organization with the board of supervisors, and county organization with an elective board of three county commissioners. The constitution further erected in each county a county court with an elected judge, who in addition to ordinary court and criminal jurisdiction exercised certain special functions such as probate.[2] An act of 1877, however, provided for separate probate courts in counties with a population of one hundred thousand—a figure since reduced to seventy thousand.[3]

At the present time, therefore, the county clerk has a variety of functions and a corresponding variety of records. He is in all but ten counties custodian of the old probate records and keeper of the current ones. He keeps the records of the county court, and also the records of the county judge's proceedings in certain functions distinct from those of the county court. As clerk to the board of county commissioners or supervisors he records their proceedings. Besides keeping

[1] Constitution of 1848, art. v, secs. 16-19; art. vii, sec. 6. The provision for election of the two associates was left at the option of the legislature.

[2] Constitution of 1870, art. x, secs. 5, 6; art. vi, sec. 18.

[3] In accordance with art. vi, sec. 20; act of April 27, 1877, *Laws of 1877*, p. 79; act of May 21, 1881, *Laws of 1881*, p. 72.

the records of courts and boards, in his capacity as clerk he performs on his own initiative certain duties connected with taxation, such as keeping books, levying taxes, and recording their collection by judgment and sale; he also records vital statistics and various miscellaneous papers, licenses, etc. In considering these various records it will be convenient to begin with the county court records, and to take next in order the records of the county commissioners or supervisors, the records of taxation, the marriage, birth, and death records, and lastly the miscellaneous records.

The present county courts exist under the act of April 5, 1872, passed in pursuance of the provisions of the state constitution. The act assigned the court concurrent jurisdiction with the circuit court in all cases involving amounts not exceeding five hundred dollars where justices of the peace had jurisdiction, as well as exclusive jurisdiction in all criminal cases in which the penalty was not death or imprisonment in the penitentiary.[1] An act of May 21, 1877 gave it concurrent jurisdiction with the circuit court in all cases in which a justice of the peace had jurisdiction and in which the sum at issue was less than one thousand dollars, and in all criminal cases above indicated.[2]

[1] *Laws of 1871-72*, p. 325.

[2] *Laws of 1877*, p. 77. Among the minor results of the carnival of special and private laws cut short by the prohibitory clause of the constitution of 1870 were additions to the jurisdiction of certain county courts. Excluding laws affecting Cook county, whose extant court records go no farther back than October of 1871, the legislation may be briefly summarized as follows. In 1845 a special county court was created in Jo Daviess county having jurisdiction concurrent with the circuit court; it was abolished in 1849. (Act of March 1, 1845, *Laws of 1845*, p. 275; act of February 8, 1849, *1 Laws of 1849*, p. 67.) In 1855 Peoria's county court was given complete jurisdiction in common law, and jurisdiction in misdemeanors where the penalty was not in excess of $100. (Act of February 9, 1855, *Laws of 1855*, p. 194; repealed February 18, 1861, *1 Laws of 1861*, p. 109.) In 1853 the county court of Lake was assigned concurrent jurisdiction with the circuit court at common law

The criminal, common law, and naturalization records of the county court are the same as those of the circuit court, and the same remarks apply equally to both. Owing to the fact that they are slighter in extent, printed forms where they have worked badly in one case have worked still worse in the other. Thus records of judgments by default and by confession have not produced so great economy of space in the county court as in the circuit. Fee books in the one have suffered as a result of the overuse of printed forms as much as in the other. The extant naturaliza-

or statute law up to $500. Similar extensions were granted to Tazewell and Carroll in 1857, in the case of Tazewell the extension involving almost complete jurisdiction at common law. (Act of February 12, 1853, *Laws of 1853*, p. 262; acts of February 14 and 16, 1857, *Laws of 1857*, pp. 36, 55.) The act affecting Carroll was repealed February 19, 1859. (*Laws of 1859*, p. 103.) In 1854 La Salle was given jurisdiction in all civil suits under $1,000. (Act of February 27, 1854, *Laws of 1854*, p. 239.) In 1865 it was given concurrent civil jurisdiction with the circuit court. (Act of February 16, 1865, *Laws of 1865*, p. 37.) The earlier act had also applied to McHenry, Winnebago, and Boone, which two last were given concurrent jurisdiction with the circuit courts in law or equity in 1857. (Acts of February 18, 1857, *Laws of 1857*, pp. 123, 150.) The benefit of the act for Winnebago, Boone, and McHenry was extended to Grundy and Livingston by act of February 15, 1855. (*Private Laws of 1855*, p. 656.) This act was repealed for Winnebago and Boone in 1863. (Act of February 12, 1863, *Laws of 1863*, p. 28.) In 1857 Whiteside was also given concurrent civil jurisdiction to the sum of $1,500, but this act was repealed in 1859. (Act of February 18, 1857, *Laws of 1857*, pp. 128, 100; act of February 19, 1859, *Laws of 1859*, p. 103.) In 1859, an act of February 24 extended the jurisdiction of Vermilion, Bureau, Warren, and Iroquois to $500. (*Laws of 1859*, p. 96.) Two years later in certain special types of cases, Gallatin was given jurisdiction of $5,000. (Act of February 21, 1861, *1 Laws of 1861*, p. 106.) In 1863 De Kalb's county court was allotted full civil jurisdiction, and Crawford's, Jasper's, and Cumberland's jurisdiction to $500. (Acts of February 21, 1863, *Laws of 1863*, pp. 26, 43.) The act regarding Crawford was repealed in 1869 and that regarding Jasper, February 16, 1865. (*Laws of 1869*, p. 145; *Laws of 1865*, p. 37.)

In addition to these Will was given extended jurisdiction in the case of sale of real estate by guardians, and Bond by act of February 19, 1859, extended jurisdiction to certain purposes. (Act of February 16, 1857, *Laws of 1857*, p. 145; *Laws of 1859*, p. 98.) The act extending the powers of Iroquois was repealed in 1861. (Act of February 18, 1861, *1 Laws of 1861*, p. 109.) In 1869 an act was passed repealing an act of March 9, 1867, extending the jurisdiction of Marion. (*Laws of 1869*, p. 148; *2 Laws of 1867*, p. 73.) Lastly an act of April 28, 1873 directed that the files in suits pending in county courts involving sums in excess of $500 should be transferred to the circuit courts of the respective counties. (*Laws of 1873*, p. 87.) In this sketch minor limitations on jurisdiction are omitted.

tion records of the county court—for till 1906 the county court had jurisdiction concurrent with the circuit court in naturalization—correspond more nearly in bulk to those of the circuit court than is the case with law or criminal records. There has been almost as much waste of book space in the one case as in the other, and in either case—to digress an instant—it is extremely desirable that the few pages on which the records have been made should be taken out of the old folios and bound together. In short, the casual observer would detect no fundamental difference between the judicial records of county and circuit courts, except that the county records begin with 1872 and contain no chancery proceedings.

Besides its jurisdiction in law and criminal cases, the county court or sometimes the county judge has certain special jurisdictions. In matters of voluntary insolvencies, the act of April 10, 1872[1] prescribed that the debtor present his schedule of debts and assets, and the assignee his account to the county court. In many counties this business has gone into the ordinary court record, but in several cases, a separate record in the form of a schedule of debts and assets has existed since 1877 or 1878.

The county court also performs certain duties prescribed to it in elaborate detail by laws for drainage districts. When a petition for the establishment of a drainage district is presented to the court, the judge must first determine that the petitioners are either a majority of the land owners interested and own one-third of the land involved, or else are one-third of the

[1] *Laws of 1871-72*, p. 490. The earlier jurisdiction was in the probate judge and the county court. *1 Laws of 1861*, p. 105; *Revised statutes, 1845*, p. 282; *Laws of 1833*, p. 351.

landholders and own a major part of the land. After finding these facts and making formal entry of them, he appoints commissioners to draw a report with a survey of a feasible scheme for the operation of the district. The judge's confirmation of their report completes the legal promotion of the district, and the commissioners next proceed to assess damages and benefits. After being confirmed by a jury, an assessment roll is entered on the records of the court.[1]

Then the court has jurisdiction in cases of adoptions, dependent and delinquent children, mothers' pensions, and insanity. For certain of these categories, separate records are kept in but a few counties. Where kept, the record of adoptions is a printed form reciting the petition of the person desiring to adopt and the order of the court. The record for dependent and delinquent children is more common. Usually it takes the shape of a form giving the petition reciting that the child is dependent or delinquent, the hearing, the finding of the court, and the disposition made of the child.[2] Since 1913 in accordance with the act for mothers' pensions, a separate form record is occasionally kept reciting the facts established by the court with respect to the situation and need of the mother, and the order of the court for a pension. All these records, however, are by no means in universal use.

[1] In some counties a special assessment record of similar type is also kept. The commissioners of a drainage district also keep a record of their proceedings—the drainage record—which sometimes is found in the county clerk's office. Further, since 1895 a record of inheritance tax appraisements and receipts is occasionally found.

[2] In La Salle the record since 1886 has been kept in the form of a register setting forth the name and age of the child, the institution to which he was committed, the date, and remarks. See the act of June 18, 1883 (*Laws of 1883*, p. 168), as amended by act of June 23, 1885 (*Laws of 1885*, p. 238) and by that of March 28, 1895 (*Laws of 1895*, p. 81). For girls' cases see the act of May 28, 1879, *Laws of 1879*, p. 309.

Since the seventies the county court has had jurisdiction of insanity. The insanity record as ordinarily kept is a two-page printed form. It includes the petition representing that A. B. is distracted and unfit to be at large, the formal appearance of the person whose insanity is suggested, the appointment either of a jury of six, or a physicians' commission of two to try the case, the verdict as to the mental condition of the person on trial, and if he is found insane, information as to his bodily health, financial condition, etc. This in general reflects the procedure of recent years, except that previous to 1893 trial could be had only by a jury. The county judge or county court has had exclusive jurisdiction in lunacy proceedings since 1853, and concurrent jurisdiction with the circuit court since 1851. Previous to that date the circuit court alone exercised jurisdiction.[1] The dates at which a separate record for insanity begins vary—the earliest, however, is 1852. In addition to the record proper the judge is required to keep a separate docket which gives the name of the person on trial, the petitioners, witnesses, and jury, the finding and the court's order.

Generally speaking, the main interest of the county court records is sociological. Apart from the existence of this interest in recent laws and criminal records, the special records just given summarize the local attitude toward defectives and dependents. The archivist, on the other hand, finds no serious problem here to arrest his attention. The sociological records, except in the case of a combined "insane and conservator's record"

[1] Act of February 12, 1823, *Laws of 1823*, p. 133; act of February 15, 1851, *Laws of 1851*, p. 96; act of February 12, 1853, *Laws of 1853*, p. 242. Circuit judges, however, again received jurisdiction in 1865 (*Laws of 1865*, p. 85). The *Revised statutes, 1874* (p. 681) finally ended their jurisdiction.

to be discussed later, call for no particular attention. Further, as was said above, the judicial records proper of the county court, while unsatisfactory at certain points from the archivist's standards, have precisely the same failings as the corresponding circuit court records. Accordingly the same strictures may apply in either case.

V. County Clerk—County Commissioners' Records

In every county clerk's office there is one record that dates from the creation of the county—the record of the board of supervisors, county court, or county commissioners' court. Naturally its contents vary from county to county with local conditions, and from period to period with the legislation defining the board's duties. An epitome of the contents to 1848 is possible. First the record usually contains a large body of material relating to roads—petitions for the establishment of new roads, reports of persons deputed to view and survey the proposed routes, records of the boundaries of road districts, appointments of road supervisors, and county appropriations for roads and bridges. Further there are petitions for licenses to keep ferries, taverns, and groceries, with the county board's memoranda of the rate and tolls assigned. Sometimes there are further records of oaths and bonds exacted from tavern keepers. There are records of proceedings on writs of ad quod damnum issued to assess the damages done to adjacent land by mill dams.[1] There are lists of grand and petit jurors selected for service in the courts of the county.[2] There are records of the rates of taxes levied for the support of the county administration.

[1] Thus the act of March 25, 1819, prescribed the process on a writ of ad quod damnum when issued for a person who wishes to erect a mill and does not own the land on which the dam must abut. (*Laws of 1819*, p. 265.) The act of 1819 follows an Indiana territorial statute. *Laws passed at the first session of the general assembly of the Indiana territory*, 23.

[2] An act of February 18, 1823 directed the commissioners to select grand jurors; petty jurors were to be selected by them under acts of March 25, 1819, and May 7, 1873. *Laws of 1819*, p. 255; *Laws of 1823*, p. 182; and *Laws of 1873*, p. 108.

There are records showing the boundaries of election districts laid out by the commissioners,[1] and records of the names of judges of election appointed by them.[2] Further there are records of the election or appointment of constables and justices of the peace,[3] of school trustees and of persons appointed to take the state census. There are the records of apprenticeship, records of the evidence of freedom submitted to the commissioners by free blacks, records of the appointment of inspectors of tobacco, pork, etc., and reports by the overseers of the poor showing the sums for which they had farmed out the poor of the district.[4] Occasionally this catholic volume also contains a record of stock marks and brands registered with the county clerk, or a record of estrays; perhaps also it may even contain a probate record or two.

Of course certain types of business outlined above are frequently kept in separate volumes. Even at an early period many county clerks kept, beside their record of the county commissioners' proceedings, a volume in which they entered matters relating to roads. Usually about the fifties or sixties they began a register

[1] Act of February 3, 1821, *Laws of 1821*, p. 74. An act of December 30, 1826 required the commissioners to district counties for the election of constables and justices of the peace. *Laws of 1829*, p. 93.

[2] Act of March 1, 1819 (*Laws of 1819*, pp. 90 *et seq.*) and also the act of 1821 cited above. The act of 1821 prescribed the appointment of three justices of the peace for each district as judges of election. See also general act of April 3, 1872, *Laws of 1871-72*, p. 383.

[3] The county commissioners' court appointed constables under the act of March 22, 1819. (*Laws of 1819*, p. 162.) The act further provided for the filing of the constable's oath of office with the county commissioners' clerk.

[4] Act of March 5, 1819, *ibid.*, 127. By act of January 17, 1829, blacks, not citizens of the United States, were compelled to produce a certificate of freedom in the county commissioners' court. (*Laws of 1829*, p. 109.) A similar provision appeared in *Pope's digest*, 467, 475. The Indiana act of 1805 prescribed the registry of indentured blacks before the common pleas clerk. (*Laws passed at the first session of the general assembly of the Indiana territory*, 25.)

of county orders in a separate volume.[1] In general, however, the proposition stated in the previous paragraph holds good. Except for records of the collection of taxes, records of marriage licenses, and records of estrays or of marks and brands, the single series of county commissioners' records contains well nigh the complete story of the administration of the county down to the constitution of 1848. Unless some clerk has committed them to the flames, a file of documents approximately paralleling these records also exists. The importance of both record and documents to the historical student cannot be overestimated. Together they tell very much of what is best worth knowing of local government in early Illinois.

A necessary preliminary to a study of this record is a review of the legislation defining the duties of the county commissioners' court. First, as has been said, the constitution of 1818 established in each county an elective board of three members called the county commissioners' court. In expanding the constitutional provision, the act of March 22, 1819,[2] thus defined their duties. Its words may be quoted at length: "That said court in each county, shall have jurisdiction in all matters and things concerning the county revenue, and regulating and imposing the county tax, and shall have power to grant license for ferries and for taverns, and all other licenses and things that may bring in a county revenue; and shall have jurisdiction in all cases of public roads, canals, turnpike roads, and toll bridges, where the law does not prohibit the said jurisdiction

[1] In 1837, July 22, an act had required county treasurers to keep a record of what orders had been passed. *2 Laws of 1837*, p. 59.

[2] *Laws of 1819*, p. 175.

of said courts; and shall have power and jurisdiction to issue all kinds of writs, warrants, process, and proceedings, by the clerk throughout the state, to the necessary execution of the power and jurisdiction with which this court is or may be vested by law. . . ." The court, it was expressly stated, had no legal jurisdiction in the ordinary sense, "but said court shall have jurisdiction in all cases where the matter or thing brought before the said court, relates to the public concerns of the county, collectively, and all county business." The function of the court was clearly designed to be administrative.

A large body of subsequent legislation expanded and itemized the duties prescribed to the court under this act. In general the acts affecting the contents of county commissioners' records and files are most easily grouped under a few special heads, such as licenses, roads, and schools; and in this manner the legislation proper will be discussed.

The subject of licenses is the simplest and accordingly may be dismissed first. Certain licenses, such as those for toll roads, bridges, etc., were not primarily designed to provide revenue.[1] Others were intended mainly to produce a fee revenue. Thus in 1819 the county commissioners were allowed to exact license fees from merchants, auctioneers, and peddlers.[2] Midway between the two classes comes the group of tavern licenses; but here the fees were usually fixed by act of the legislature.[3]

[1] *Laws of 1819*, p. 300. An act of January 19, 1829 allowed the county commissioners to levy taxes on ferries for improving the roads to them. *Laws of 1829*, pp. 119 *et seq.*

[2] *Laws of 1819*, p. 352. Territorial acts fixing license fees for merchants exist from the first.

[3] *Laws of 1835*, p. 154; *Laws of 1839*, p. 71. In 1792 an act of the Northwest

The duties of the county commissioners' court with respect to roads and schools can be explained only after a study of successive acts that constitute a body of legislation second in intricacy and variability only to that concerning the revenue. "Since then (1826-7)," wrote Governor Ford about 1847, "the legislature has been constantly making and amending laws for roads and schools, but there has been no good system of either."[1] Whether the student of Illinois statutes agrees with Ford's second statement or not, he will cordially indorse the first.

Public roads in Illinois were usually established either by special act of the legislature or else in conformity with general acts by the initiative of private persons. In either case a survey of the route was recorded with the county commissioners. These surveys are sometimes found in the county commissioners' records, occasionally in a road record by themselves. When a road was established by a special act, the act usually specified the manner in which it should be laid out.

territory directed the governor to appoint a commissioner in each county to grant tavern licenses to persons approved by quarter sessions; but in 1795 the function was transferred to the court of quarter sessions and to the governor. (*Laws passed in the territory of the United States, north-west of the river Ohio, from July to December, 1792*, ch. 1, p. 6; *Maxwell's code*, 96.) In 1805 the Indiana territorial legislature assigned the duty to the courts of common pleas. (*Laws passed at the first session of the general assembly of the Indiana territory*, 14.) It may be permissible to examine at this point the duties of the county commissioners' court with reference to the bounty on wolves' heads. An act of January 28, 1823 (*Laws of 1823*, p. 87) provided for the payment of a state bounty for the largest number of wolf scalps taken by any one person in the state and in each county; it allowed the counties also to offer bounties. An act of 1799 (*Laws of the territory of the United States, north-west of the river Ohio, 1799*, p. 226) had provided a bounty to be paid from the county rates. See also one of 1795 (*Laws of the territory of the United States, north-west of the river Ohio, 1795*, p. 112). The provision for a local bounty was reënacted in 1843 (*Laws of 1843*, p. 319), and 1877 (*Laws of 1877*, p. 217), act of May 18. From 1825 to 1843 the bounties were paid out of the state treasury. Act of January 15, 1825, *Laws of 1825*, p. 116; act of February 15, 1837, *1 Laws of 1837*, p. 334; act of December 10, 1839, *Laws of 1839*, p. 155.

[1] Ford, *History of Illinois*, 59.

In the case of roads initiated under the provisions of the general road laws, the successive general acts, in so far as they prescribe the procedure to be followed, are ordinarily uniform. First came a petition to the county commissioners for a new road, signed by a fixed number of inhabitants of the county. Next the county commissioners had to appoint road viewers to report on the feasibility of the new route and to assess the damages it would cause. If the viewers reported favorably, the commissioners adopted the proposal, and directed the road supervisors to construct and to maintain the new road. A proposal for abandonment of an old road took a course precisely similar. In either case, petition, appointment, report of viewers, and minutes of adoption were all recorded in the county commissioners' record or in a special volume for roads.[1]

While the county commissioners' court thus directed the establishment or abandonment of public roads, the care and upkeep were intrusted to district officials annually appointed by the court and responsible to it. To be specific, the act of 1819 directed the county commissioners to appoint supervisors of the public highways in the various townships. An act of 1825 directed the laying off of road districts.[2] It reiterated the provision that the county commissioners appoint road supervisors in each district to report annually to the county court. The act of February 12, 1849, inaugurating township government, transferred to highway commissioners elected in each township in counties adopting that type

[1] The rudiments of this system were apparent in an act of the Northwest territory of 1792. (*Laws passed in the territory of the United States, north-west of the river Ohio, 1792*, p. 21.) It was somewhat changed by an Indiana act. *Revision of 1807*, p. 288.

[2] See act of January 15, 1825, *Laws of 1825*, p. 130.

of organization, the duties pertaining to roads in the township formerly exercised by the county board.[1]

The legislation touching the county control of roads is fairly simple; the really difficult part of the subject is the provision for maintenance.[2] The act of 1819 merely empowered the supervisors to exact as many days labor up to five from each able-bodied resident as was necessary. The act of 1825, which Ford considered the only statesmanlike law on the subject passed in his time,[3] put the assessment of road labor on the same basis as the assessment of other taxes. A road tax was to be levied by the county commissioners and assessed in the ordinary assessment book, and was to be collected by the district supervisors either in money or labor for the support of the roads. The act of 1827[4] swept away this system and like the act of 1819 allowed the supervisors within certain limits to levy as much labor or as little as they chose. A further act in 1831[5] retained the labor provisions, but also allowed the county commissioners to secure additional labor by a tax on real and personal property which might be commuted for money. Where such a tax was levied the road supervisors made out lists of taxable persons in their districts and dispatched them for assessment to the county clerk. The act of February 3, 1835[6]

[1] It reserved, however, to the county board the right to fix the tax rate and a general appellate jurisdiction. See *Laws of 1859*, p. 195.

[2] For the territorial beginning of the system see the act of December 13, 1799 (*Laws of the territory of the United States north-west of the river Ohio, 1799*, p. 263) as amended in 1805 (*Laws passed at the first session of the general assembly of the Indiana territory, 1805*); also the act of 1792 (*Laws passed in the territory of the United States, north-west of the river Ohio, 1792*, p. 23) and the Indiana law of 1807 (*Revision of 1807*, pp. 296 *et seq.*).

[3] Ford, *History of Illinois*, 130.

[4] Act of February 12, 1827, *Laws of 1827*, p. 340.

[5] Act of February 15, 1831, *Laws of 1831*, p. 158.

[6] Act of February 3, 1835, *Laws of 1835*, p. 129.

allowed the county commissioners to fix both the number of days labor and the rate of tax to be exacted and provided for the levy of the tax like other taxes, while permitting its discharge in labor. To insure the collection of this rate, the supervisor by an act of 1841 was to return the county clerk's list of taxables with notation as to persons who had not paid; the unpaid tax in this case was extended on the collector's book.[1] Further the county commissioners were to enter on their records the number of days that each man should work on the roads, and if they saw fit, to levy a tax in addition; the act further prescribed that the county clerk list on the tax books all persons owing road tax. The tax so listed might be discharged either in money or by labor. After 1849 the road tax lists above described changed their character completely. The new form is prescribed by the act of 1849,[2] requiring the local officials to return to the boards of supervisors or county boards lists of persons liable for road tax, with notation of the instances in which it remains unpaid. When such lists are turned in, it becomes the duty of the supervisors to see that the balance is duly collected.[3] The whole system has been completely revolutionized by the act of 1913.

The records of the county commissioners regarding schools center around the administration of one or two sections in each township set aside by Congress for the support of schools, and around the management of moneys derived from their sale. Thus in 1819 the legislature directed the county commissioners to ap-

[1] *Laws of 1841*, p. 233.

[2] *1 Laws of 1849*, p. 217.

[3] Down to 1913 this was the procedure in counties under the township system in which the labor tax was in force. See *Revised statutes, 1911*, p. 2014

point school trustees in each township to lay out the sixteenth section and make returns of their work to the county commissioners' court.[1] The system began to assume shape with an act passed by the legislature in 1829 in anticipation of the permission of Congress for the sale of school lands.[2] The county commissioners were now to appoint an agent to execute sales of school lands. Such sales were to take place only on petition of the inhabitants of a township for the sale of their school lands. After selling any school lands the agent was to report his sales to the county commissioners' court, noting the description and number of acres of lands sold, the price, the date of sale, the name and residence of the purchaser, and these details were to be recorded by the clerk. The agent was further directed to keep a record of the petitions, including their signatures, on which he acted, a record of his sales as he reported them, and also a record of any loans of school money made by him.

In 1841 the law practically took its present form. The agent was now replaced by a commissioner elected biennially, who has since been replaced by a county superintendent of schools with a four year term.[3] He was to record in four separate books the petitions for the sale of school lands, lists of sales, certificates or records of sales, and accounts of loans made of school money—the last with particulars of interest, person, security, etc. At every term of the county court he was to report to the commissioners his sales, receipts, and loans, the sales being copied in a book by the county

[1] Act of March 2, 1819, *Laws of 1819*, p. 107.
[2] *Laws of 1829*, p. 150.
[3] *Laws of 1865*, p. 112.

clerks.[1] This system of accounting for school funds is in general still followed. The mass of records here sketched, either finds a place in the county commissioners' records, or else in small books which first appear in in many counties in the forties and fifties, in general containing summaries of the books that the commissioner was required to keep.

The above discussion has mainly dealt with the legislation affecting the duties of county commissioners prior to 1848. In the period that has since elapsed the record of course has tended more and more to be simply the record of the county's financial administration. A summary of the legislation regarding it or of the exact contents of the record would be difficult and comparatively useless.

The county commissioners' court record, with its accompanying books and files, is, it may be repeated, a record whose importance for the study of local history cannot be overestimated. Indeed there is danger lest in enumerating certain of the county commissioners' duties we may overlook others. In general it must be remembered that from 1820 to 1840 almost all local government in so far as it is mirrored in records, found its way into the hands of the county commissioners. Few records of the county bear clearer impress of local conditions. For that reason the reader is referred from this necessarily slight survey to the descriptions of the contents of the records of individual counties.

For this very reason, that the county commissioners' record bears the impress of both local conditions and

[1] Act of February 26, 1841, *Laws of 1841*, p. 259; *Revised statutes*, ch. 122, sec. 206.

men, it has an interest not only to the general historian of social conditions, but also for the inhabitants of the county in which it originated. To take but a single illustration, in the matter of past and present routes of roads, of the location of ferries, etc., the record affords accurate information on topics around which local discussion loves to linger. If that millenium of the historical worker ever comes, when strong local historical societies crystallize a new interest in the study of history throughout the state, a county society can undertake no fitter task of publication than an edition of the early records of the county commissioners court.

VI. County Clerk—Taxation

Because of the close relation between the various records of taxation kept in county clerks' offices it is easiest to consider them together. To do so, it must be admitted, necessitates in some instances a sacrifice of the method of arrangement generally followed in this report. To give a single illustration, the judgment records are records of the judicial proceedings of the county court and logically belong with its other records. In the foregoing pages where clearness could be gained by discussing taxation records in connection with the court or board responsible for their formation or preservation, as in the case of road tax lists, this has been done. The majority of the tax material in the county clerk's office, however, is easiest understood when grouped under one head.

The historical evolution of the legislation affecting tax records can be grasped most easily after a study of its present stages of development as illustrated by the current Illinois revenue system. In describing that system one logically begins with the method of tax levy. Each of the various state and local taxing bodies certifies yearly to the county clerk the amount it desires to raise. The clerk then proceeds to compute the rate per cent on the taxable property within the jurisdiction of the particular town, city, village, school district, that will produce the specified sum. If in any case the rate exceeds that to which the taxing body in question is legally entitled, the clerk must scale down the levy as may be necessary.

Next comes the process of assessment. In each township personal property is assessed annually and real estate quadrennially in a separate book furnished by the county clerk.[1] Next, the county board of review hears and adjusts any complaints regarding individual assessments, and equalizes assessments between districts. Lastly, the assessments are equalized on the basis of a certificate of the footing of the assessment books supplied by the county clerk to the auditor of public accounts by the state board of equalization. The county clerk then proceeds to extend on the collector's books the sums due from each tax payer to the various state taxing bodies in whose jurisdiction he lives.

Last in order comes the provision for enforcing payment. When taxes on personal property are not paid, it becomes the collector's duty to distrain and sell it; in case he cannot raise the tax in this manner, he reports his inability and files a statement of errors and abatements the facts of which are certified by the county clerk to the various bodies entitled to receive taxes. Thus it becomes an acquittance for taxes that cannot be collected and for sums due on the face of the collector's books because of errors and double listings. When taxes on land remain unpaid and no personal property can be found to be distrained upon, land also is sold for taxes, but with more deliberate procedure. First a list of delinquent tracts of land is published in a county newspaper, and on a given day the collector petitions the county court for entry

[1] In counties under township organization a separate volume is used for each organized township; in other counties a separate volume is assigned each congressional township.

of judgment against them. In case the owner wishes to contest the tax on the ground of a flaw in the levy or some other technical defect, he may do it at this point by entering an objection to judgment, and securing a hearing on the legal point involved. In default of such objections, the county judge enters judgment against the lands specified. They are then offered at public sale and are struck off to the bidder, who offers to pay the amount of taxes and costs for the lowest per cent of penalty. At any time within two years the owner of the property may redeem it by depositing with the county clerk a fixed sum, equivalent to the amount paid by the tax buyer plus the steadily increasing penalty. If the land is not redeemed within the two years allotted, the tax buyer on recording an affidavit that he has duly advertised his lien on the property, both in the newspapers and by personal notice to the owner, may secure a tax deed.

As has been said, this system has been molded by continual flux and change in the revenue laws. The main outlines sketched above are not all apparent until 1849. After that date it is possible to describe the extant records with reference to the laws prescribing them. For the period of the first constitution, legislation is so confusing and records so few that it is impossible to correlate the one with the other. Accordingly, for this period only the general legislative development will be traced in the light afforded by it; records of the individual counties will be left to explain themselves as best they may.

Since a chronicle of the provisions of the ten or more important revenue acts of the period would be insufferably tedious, the legislation will be grouped topically

under the three heads just employed—levy, assessment, and collection. In the early days of the state the business of levy was comparatively simple, for at the end of the period we have set ourselves the present complications had scarcely appeared. The first revenue law of the state of Illinois, that of March 27, 1819,[1] levied a tax on land, on stock of Illinois banks, and on slaves. The law allowed a share of this tax to the county and permitted the county commissioners, if they found it necessary, to levy in addition a tax on personal property not to exceed one-half per cent.[2]

The worst intricacies of the early legislation occur in

[1]*Laws of 1819*, pp. 313 *et seq.* The earliest territorial statute on levy affecting Illinois required the court of quarter sessions to estimate county expenses and lay their estimate before governor and legislature to be approved. (*Laws passed in the territory of the United States, north-west of the river Ohio, 1792*, p. 16.) In 1795 an elaborate system was established. It included county expenses and revenues by a meeting in each county of commissioners chosen by quarter sessions, and of town assessors elected in each township. They were further to assess from schedules turned into the constables. (*Maxwell's code*, 107.) See also the act of December 19, 1799, which prescribed assessment of land on resident taxpayers' lists, and on nonresidents' returns to the auditor or the clerk of the county. Taxes on land went to the state and on personal property to the county, the latter being levied by appointed commissioners. (*Laws of the territory of the United States north-west of the river Ohio, 1799*, pp. 180, 194.) In 1805 an Indiana statute provided for the appointment by common pleas courts of assessors and collectors to be supplied with transcripts from the land offices by the territorial auditor. On the basis of their rating the territorial auditor was to assess. (*Laws passed at the first session of the general assembly of the Indiana territory*, 30.) Jones and Johnson's revision of the Indiana laws in 1807 left the common pleas court to audit and apportion taxes and the sheriff to assess and collect on personal property. For land, assessment was made on the basis of an auditor's transcript revised by an assessor appointed by the common pleas court; collection was performed by the sheriff. (*Revision of 1807*, pp. 370, 517.) *Pope's digest* (pp. 583, 597) left a commissioner in each county to receive lists of lands on the basis of which the sheriff collected. In Illinois a provision similar to that of the Indiana act was made for personal property taxes except that the county treasurer received lists and the court of common pleas revised them. On taxation, *Pope's digest* is unspeakably bad.

[2]*Laws of 1825*, p. 313. The state took all taxes levied on bank stock and nonresident lands and two-thirds of the tax on resident lands. By the act of February 15, 1821, however, it allotted two-thirds of all taxes on land except in the military tract to the counties. (*Laws of 1821*, p. 183.) Not until 1839 did the state claim a share of taxes on personal property.

matters of assessment and collection.[1] The first mention of assessment books in state legislation occurs in the act of 1825,[2] which directed the auditor of public accounts to furnish each county commissioner's clerk with a tax book of lands lying in his county. This book after being successively used by both assessor and collector was returned to the auditor.[3] As for assessment of personal property, the act of 1825[4] directed a similar procedure with an assessment book, which however originated with the county clerk, and—when corrected by the assessor—finally returned to him. The headings for this assessment book in cases where a personal property tax was levied were specified in an act of 1827—town lots, slaves, indentured servants, carriages, distilleries, stock in trade, horses and cattle,

[1] An act of the Northwest territory passed in 1792 left the duty of assessment to commissioners appointed by the court of common pleas in each county and to assessors similarly appointed in each district. *Laws passed in the territory of the United States, north-west of the river Ohio, 1792*, p. 16.

[2] January 17, 1825, *Laws of 1825*, p. 173.

[3] The act of 1823 directed the auditors to send to the county treasurer a list of lands owned by residents and nonresidents. After correction, this was returned. The act (*Laws of 1823*, p. 205) further required nonresident lands to be listed with the auditor and sold by him in default of payment. The act of February 19, 1827, amended this act so far as to drop the provision for the return of the corrected tax book to the auditor. The book furnished as the auditor's transcript too assumed more of a permanent character and was added to from time to time as new lands were entered. Here too it might be noted that one puzzling factor in the early tax levy records is the distinction between residents' and nonresidents' lands and property. Thus the act of 1827 required the county clerk to list to the auditor all lands supposed to be owned by nonresidents, taxes on which were collected by the auditor directly. (*Laws of 1827*, p. 325.) All lands on the "Military Tract" northwest of the Illinois river were so to be listed no matter how they were owned. In lieu of the taxes on them the state for some years paid certain specified sums to the various counties organized in the military tract. In 1829 the revenue law permitted a nonresident to list his lands and pay taxes either through the state auditor or through the county collector. (*Laws of 1829*, p. 119.) To anticipate a little, the act of 1819 provided that nonresidents pay through the auditor and made the same distinction with respect to collection, by providing that the sheriff list sales of nonresident land or taxes to the state auditor, and sales of residents' land to the county commissioner's clerk. *Laws of 1819*, pp. 314–317.

[4] *Laws of 1825*, p. 174.

watches. In 1839[1] the various district assessors received from the county clerk copies of the auditor's transcript of lands in so far as it covered their districts. After valuing the property themselves or else swearing the owner to his valuations they made an alphabetical assessment list[2] of all persons subject to taxation, whether on lands or personal property. The book was returned to the county clerk to be used by the collector.[3]

Out of the preceding maze of detail, one or two points stand out clearly. Sometimes land and personal property are listed in different assessors' and collectors' books, and sometimes in the same. Latterly one book is used for both assessor and collector. Further, at an early date assessment of real estate is made more accurate by being based, through the auditor's transcripts of land office sales, on the comparatively accurate surveys and sale records of the United States land office.[4]

Lastly comes the legislation on collection.[5] On this

[1] Act of February 26, 1839, *Laws of 1839*, p. 3.

[2] This provision was repealed February 1, 1840. *Laws of 1840*, p. 4.

[3] Practically the same provisions appeared in the acts of March 6, 1843 and March 3, 1845 except that the clerk was directed to list separately lands and town lots forfeited to the state. *Laws of 1843*, p. 231; *Laws of 1845*, p. 3.

[4] This provision occurs in the territorial act of December 25, 1812. It is interesting to note that the clerks in the Cook county offices have not found the government surveys sufficiently accurate for their purposes. *Pope's digest*, p. 588. See also the Indiana act of 1805. *Laws passed at the first session of the general assembly of the Indiana territory*, 31.

[5] The ordinary procedure is clearly sketched in an act of 1798 prescribing that the collector sell unimproved land for taxes on warrant of the quarter sessions, and issue a certificate of purchase. (*Laws of the territory of the United States northwest of the river Ohio, 1798*, p. 23.) An act of 1799 extended its application to all land. The act of 1792 had provided merely for levy on personal property by the collector, or in default, imprisonment of the delinquent. (*Laws passed in the territory of the United States, north-west of the river Ohio, 1792*, p. 16.) An Indiana law of 1806 allowed redemption in two years. (*Laws passed at the second session of the first general assembly of the Indiana territory*, 1.) In 1821 the auditor assumed complete charge of collecting and selling in the case of nonresidents' land. Act of February 15, 1821, *Laws of 1821*, p. 182.

head the act of 1819 simply directs the sheriff to make return of his sales of land for taxes to the auditor or to the county commissioners as the case may be, and adds a few provisions regarding redemption within a period of two years. In 1833 an act was passed to clear accounts of all unpaid taxes.[1] By its provisions the auditor is to transmit to the county clerks lists of lands listed with him on which taxes remained unpaid whether "resident" or "non-resident." The county clerks after publishing these lists are, in default of redemption, to sell the lands involved. At the end of two years purchasers of such lands in default of redemptions acquire a perfect title. The clerks' sales of such lands, under the headings of quantity, to whom sold, and price, are to be registered in a special book which apparently will be the first distinct tax sale record.

The fact that such a system can work hardship on the ignorant and can be manipulated by unscrupulous officials soon became apparent. So one would judge from the act of 1839[2] requiring the collector first to advertise his list of delinquent lands and then report it to the circuit court. The court, the act stated, was to enter judgment on this list, and a copy of the judgment was to be the collector's warrant for his sales, which were to be recorded by the county clerk. The constitution of 1848 included a provision forbidding the issue of a tax deed unless the buyer first made affidavit that he had advertised the fact of his lien, either by personal notice on the supposed owner, or

[1] *Laws of 1833*, p. 528. The act of 1829 made the advertised list a record of the county, and another of 1833 prescribed a printer's certificate to it.

[2] *Laws of 1839*, p. 3.

by newspaper publication. The constitution of 1870 stated the same position in more general terms.[1] In spite of these necessary precautions, tax sales, as every county official knows, are still a snare to the unwary.

In the case of the later legislation on taxation, it is possible to show the connection between the terms of the acts and the forms of the record. In considering the various types of current record, the forms they take prior to 1848, if they are extant for that period, will also be noted. In the case of assessors' and collectors' books it is interesting to trace the development of the present format, in spite of the fact that the earlier books are so unsufficiently labeled and dated that it is nearly impossible to classify them. The fact that many of the earliest are obviously homemade gives them an especial interest. Often the early tax books are simply sheets of paper folded over and tacked together with ribbon. In Vermilion one ambitious clerk ventured higher. One or two of his books are folios of paper with a backing of soft leather stitched at one end so that the whole record when folded presents the appearance of a leather bound book. In the same county some other small books, barely six inches square, are bound in calico of gaudy patterns, whose colors after the passage of eighty years are still emphatic. Nothing suggests more immediately the economy of stationery and indeed the general simplicity and unpretentiousness of government in the early days of Illinois.

In the forties and fifties the printed-form book comes to supplant homemade devices. Enterprising printing houses begin to get out little books, often not much

[1] Art. ix, secs. 4, 5.

larger than copy books, with printed forms for the use of assessor and collector. By the middle of the fifties these have been replaced by quartos which can be differentiated into collectors' and assessors' records. When separate volumes for the different townships are adopted prior to 1872 they appear in each instance with the adoption of township organization.[1]

Since the seventies the large folio assessor's book has usually contained the following headings: for land, in whose name entered, the owner's name, the description, the value, the school and road districts in which located, the amount of tax due; for personal property, the amounts under various classifications. In recent years the assessor's book has provided for the assessment of land according to the purposes for which it is used, and for an elaborate series of equalizations.

Collectors' books for the earlier part of the period contain merely the description of the land and the school, county, state, and road taxes due on it. The later forms for real estate detail the owner's name, the description, the number of acres, the value, the value as equalized by county and state boards of equalization,[2] the amounts of state, county, town, school, road, and miscellaneous taxes, back tax due, total, the number of the school and road district, remarks, and when paid. Later forms add further details as to payment in the case of tax sales, and the levy of special assessments. For personal property the same form is fol-

[1] After 1872 the practice was generally adopted. The act of February 12, 1849, provides for the township books in counties under township organization. (*Laws of 1849*, p. 206.) The act of 1872 made the congressional townships assessors' districts in counties not under township organization. *Laws of 1871-72*, p. 19.

[2] The act of February 12, 1849 made the county board a board of equalization. *1 Laws of 1849*, p. 207.

lowed except that, of course, there is no description of land.

In each county, beginning at varying dates sometimes as late as the eighties, a collector's book known as the "Railroad Tax Book," which was prescribed by the act of 1872,[1] has been used year by year for the collection of all railroad taxes; other volumes are similarly used for telegraph and telephone company taxes. At this point an explanation of the system of assessing railroad property may be made. The state board of equalization assesses the capital, right of way, and rolling stock of each railroad and apportions each county its share in proportion to the mileage it contains. The county clerk similarly apportions the assessment on which the county is thus entitled to levy for local taxes among the cities, towns, and villages of the county according to the number of miles each contains. Sidings, stations, and tools are assessed to the city, town, etc., where they are located. Each clerk files schedules turned in by the railroads exhibiting the facts of location mentioned above, excepting for tools, and uses them to complete his own assessments.

Next in importance are the records of tax judgments, sales, redemptions, and forfeiture. Since 1880 these have all been kept in one printed-form record—the "Tax Judgment, Sale, Redemption, and Forfeiture Record."[2] It specifies the person to whom the land was assessed, the description, the equalized value, the tax plus interest and costs, the amount of the judgment upon them, and the total amount due on the property sold; the purchaser, the total amount necessary to

[1] *Laws of 1871-72*, pp. 14–16.

[2] The term is that of the act of May 29, 1879. *Laws of 1879*, p. 250.

redeem, the person redeeming, the date of deed, and so forth.

Prior to 1880 these particulars were scattered through several different records. First was the tax judgment record, which in some cases exists in duplicate, one copy being the petition of the collector for judgment and the other the court's order of judgment. Usually this record contains the name of the owner, the description of the land, its value, the itemized and total amount of taxes and costs due, and the name of the tax buyer. The tax sale record gives the description, equalized value, taxes, total due, to whom sold, amount of the redemption, etc. The forfeiture record is a list of lands forfeited to the state for want of bidders. The designations of these records vary from time to time and place to place. Thus, there are tax sale records, tax judgment and sale records, sale and redemption records,[1] etc., each including a part or all of the information noted above; but they vary too much to admit of further classification.

In this connection may appropriately be mentioned the record kept in almost all counties for affidavits for tax deeds. It usually appears about 1850 or 1851 in pursuance of the direction of the constitution of 1848; though needless to say a separate record in many counties does not appear till much later. The record contains the affidavit by the purchaser of a tax title that, having performed the requirements of the law in posting notice, advertising, and giving notice of his lien, he is entitled to a tax deed.[2] The "delinquent

[1] This is the terminology of the act of 1872; it also prescribes a separate record of lands forfeited to the state. *Laws of 1871-72*, p. 48; *ibid.*, 54.

[2] The constitution of 1848, art. ix, sec. 4, required a tax buyer to serve notice on the person whose land is bought or else to advertise the lien in a

lists," as ordinarily filed, are newspapers with certificate of circulation appended, containing advertised lists of persons and property advertised for delinquency in paying taxes. The list usually specifies the owner, the property and its value, and the amount of taxes due. Sometimes, however, these lists also exist in manuscript. Since 1899 every county has kept a record and a complaint docket for the proceedings of the board of review in acting on complaints as to assessments.

The statutes specify two general summaries of taxation to be recorded in each county. One of them, the abstract of the assessment of property, shows the aggregate and the average value of each class of property to be used for equalization. The second, the statement of assessment and taxes, is a transcript from the collector's books. Both statements are forwarded to the auditor, and the records of them appear in county offices in separate books at dates varying from the fifties to the eighties.

Several records are used for levy and assessment of taxes. The books of school[2] and road district plats, although used for other purposes, may be included under this head because of the use made of them in spreading taxes and assessments. No definite date can be assigned for either of these records. The same may be said of the docket of rates and amounts wanted

paper. Before receiving a deed the buyer had to make affidavit that he had complied with these requirements. The present statutory provisions in general are the same.

[2] An act of 1855 requires the filing and recording of school plats. (*Laws of 1855*, p. 60.) An act of 1849 (*1 Laws of 1849*, p. 164) provides for the recording of certificates of school districts. Another of 1865 (*Laws of 1865*, p. 118) directed the filing and recording of alterations in their boundaries. A provision for road district plats is in the revision of 1874. *Revised statutes, 1874*, p. 921.

which is an entry book of the sum demanded by each local taxing body, and of the rate on the assessed property in the district that will raise it.[1]

Finally several files of papers accumulate in the course of the levy of taxes. Among these are railroad schedules in some cases dating from the fifties, and telegraph and telephone schedules dating from perhaps 1878 or 1884. There are certificates of levy filed by various local taxing bodies and dating from the forties. There are school tax lists sometimes as early as the fifties.[2] The files of road tax lists, which give the names of persons in the district liable for tax, the tax unpaid, and the property against which it may be levied, usually are the most complete of all and run back to early dates, sometimes as early as 1838.

On the form of the records and files that have been enumerated the archivist can offer but few specific criticisms. Most of the books are registers with printed headings, and for taxation records this type seems most appropriate. Occasionally a tax assessor's or collector's book contains superfluous leaves, but the defect can be obviated by rebinding. All in all it is hard to see where changes in the form of the tax records could work economy of space.

In the final disposition of taxation records it is easy to trace the distinction previously established between current and dead records. The records of tax judg-

[1] One miscellaneous record deserves special mention. It is the record for refunding the excessive tax of 1873. (Act of March 26, 1875, *Laws of 1875*, p. 99.) Another act, March 29, 1872 (*Laws of 1871–72*, p. 291), directed the county clerk to minute the particulars of each deed before recorded, in order to keep his assessment records up to date. This record, the "Entries of Conveyances," is generally discontinued within a year. The legal requirement was repealed by act of April 31, 1873. *Laws of 1873*, p. 71.

[2] Act of 1855, *Laws of 1855*, pp. 79–80. The amended act of 1871–1872 does not include the provision for the list.

ments, sales, redemptions, and forfeitures, tax deed affidavits, collectors' books of the last twenty years, and perhaps also the certificates of levy are carefully housed. On the contrary, old tax files while usually arranged with some care, are often consigned to basement or attic storerooms. Old collectors' and assessors' books are often piled in corners in basements or staircase corners, and left to suffer from mold and dust in a manner that is nothing less than a disgrace to the state. Often assessors' books have been deliberately destroyed. In short no "dead" record is more frequently or more outrageously abused than dead taxation records.

Here again the question as to whether they should be destroyed or centralized depends on the further question of the historian's interest in them; and it is hard to define exactly the historian's interest in taxation records. Certainly any records prior to 1860 possess historical interest. Especially is this true of assessors' books which may serve as indexes to the wealth of the community and road tax lists which may afford the names of county residents at a desired date. Further it cannot be too often repeated that any record or paper may have historical importance.

For the more recent period, however, it must be admitted that the value of the taxation records, even for such historical purposes, becomes problematical. As the assessments of property bear less and less relation to the wealth actually existing they lose their importance. The only historical value indeed that can be assigned them offhand is value as material for a history of the revenue system; and to centralize such a vast body of material for no greater use than that would be

indeed far fetched.[1] The ideal method of treating them would be to digest their contents in statistical form and then destroy such of them as are no longer useful, but such a project is almost as difficult of achievement as centralization. Emphatically the records should not be wantonly destroyed, but the problem of extracting the information they contain at a cost at all commensurate with its value is a riddle that cannot be solved here.

[1]A conservative estimate of the bulk of these records outside of Cook county for the last fifty years would be ten thousand large folios.

VII. County Clerk—Vital Statistics

Under the direction of the board of health, county clerks since 1877 have kept a class of records that may, for convenience, be grouped under the name of vital statistics. These records include registers of births and deaths, records of the license to practice of physicians resident in the county, a register of the names, signature, etc., of practicing physicians and midwives, and a record of marriages, this last supplementing a body of records kept ever since the foundation of the state. A description of these records will best be preceded by a review of the legislation prescribing them.

An act creating the state board of health of May 25, 1877,[1] directed that the board report legislation providing for the registration of vital statistics, and meanwhile prepare forms for the use of the county clerks in recording them. The act further directed the county clerks to procure separate books for recording births, marriages, and deaths in the form that the board of health should direct. Probably with a view to authenticating returns of births and deaths, the act also directed that a register of physicians and accoucheurs be kept.

Subsequent legislation has been framed primarily to secure the performance of their duty by persons required to make returns. Thus in 1901[2] an amending act required town clerks to forward to the county clerk returns of deaths made to them. A second act of 1903[3]

[1] *Laws of 1877*, p. 208.
[2] *Laws of 1901*, p. 301.
[3] *Laws of 1903*, p. 315.

altered the course of the channel by which the certificates reached the county clerk. However, there is still much room for improvement in the proportion of births that are returned. Sometimes from motives that may easily be imagined, and sometimes from pure carelessness, attending physicians fail to report, and thereby render the record statistically incomplete.[1]

In practically all instances birth and death records are kept in folios with a printed form corresponding to the board of health form. A file of the original returns made to the clerk parallels the record. The form of birth returns has apparently been uniform since 1877. It includes information as to the date of the return, the child's name, sex, color, the number of the birth from the mother, the nativity and age of father and mother, the maiden name of the mother, the occupation of the father, the name of the person certifying to the birth. A separate form used for still births, adds information as to the cause of the miscarriage. At times this last record is kept in a separate volume, but at present the tendency is to keep it in a separate part of the regular birth record. In the case of this record, as in the case of deaths and marriages, indexes are kept which are of very uneven value, notwithstanding the fact that they are well nigh as important as any in the office of the county clerk.[2]

[1] The act of 1903 cited above provided that certificates of deaths be forwarded to the clerk through the state board of health. It further directed that reports of births be made to the clerk directly except in the case that a health commissioner in a city of fifty thousand or over directed that reports be made to him. In one county I was told that a health commissioner from no apparent motive had refused to make any return for over a year. In any county it is a frequent occurrence for a parent to discover that the birth of a child has never been reported by the physician. However, in Cook county I was told that since a fee was allowed for returns the improvement had been marked. It might be added here that in a very few counties birth and death returns of a kind were kept as early as 1865. At best these are fragmentary.

[2] The practice of recording the paternity of an illegitimate child may be touched on here. Undoubtedly a return naming the putative father would

The form of death return employed until 1903 included the deceased's sex, color, age, place of birth, length of residence in Illinois, occupation, place and date of death and burial, undertaker, and cause of death. Since 1902-1903 the record has also included conjugal condition, the last and previous occupations, length of residence in the United States, birthplace and name of father and mother, and a more extended record of the cause of death. In most counties the change in form has been responsible for the partial waste of one or two record volumes, but in general it may be said that the printed form records used for birth and death reports are, and have been, economical.

One or two comparatively unimportant certificate records and registers prescribed to the county clerk may be considered briefly at this point. Since 1877 clerks have kept a register of physicians and accoucheurs. It is alphabetical in arrangement, and contains the date of the entry, the signature, address, school of medicine, the particulars of graduation, certificate, and experience of the person in question. Since 1877[1] also there has been a record of physicians' licenses to practice. Usually books are used containing three different forms: for certificates issued to graduates from an approved college of medicine, to persons passing a state examination, and to persons qualified by experience. With 1897[2] a similar record was begun

be prima facie evidence of paternity that would have weight in a trial of bastardy; and if recorded might be a libel on the person named. In Cook county the clerk refuses to accept a return stating the paternity of an illegitimate child. A second point of importance is that occasionally a return is made before the Christian name of the child has been decided upon. Unless the clerk is vigilant in forcing the physician to return the name of the child at a future date, the value of the record may thus be seriously impaired.

[1] *Laws of 1877*, p. 155.

[2] *Laws of 1897*, p. 84.

in the case of architects' licenses; with 1907,[1] one for nurses' certificates of graduation. Since 1881[2] a similar record of dental licenses has been kept.

While some of these certificate records are not prescribed by the acts relating to the board of health, they all can most conveniently be considered here. The one general criticism might be made against all of them that they are loading up small counties with large books of printed forms, which may at any time be wasted by a change in the form of certificates. The clerks, however, when purchasing forms from a supply house, can hardly be blamed for thinking a large book more economical than a small one. One of two remedies may be effectual: permit the clerks to record such certificates on printed loose leaves and bind them in a loose-leaf record, or else issue to the clerks small books, each containing twenty-five or fifty of a form.

The subject of marriage records has been reserved till the last for more extended consideration, for strangely enough this seemingly simple record has been kept in more diverse ways than any other. In very many counties two different records were kept to recent dates; in many two records are kept at present. This is probably the result of conflicting legislation. Ever since the formation of the state, registration of marriages has been required by legislation that of late years has been supplemented by the acts regarding the board of health and by the rules and forms it has issued. With two independent bodies of legislation on the same subject, conflicts are to be expected.

It will be simplest to begin with the board of health

[1] *Laws of 1907*, p. 383.
[2] Act of May 30, 1881, *Laws of 1881*, p. 79.

form, which has remained practically the same since 1877. It retails the number and date of the license, the date of the affidavit; it supplies for both bride and groom, name, residence, age, occupation, names of parents, and the number of previous marriages; lastly it records the place and date of marriage, the witnesses, the person certifying, and the date the return was made on the certificate. In the great majority of counties this record is and has been kept since 1877. In a few it has been discarded of late years, a practice which possibly may come within the law. The terms of the act of 1877 which cover marriages, births, and deaths are not nearly so precise as those of the act of 1903 which relate only to births and deaths. In all such counties, however, some record of marriages is kept.

As has been said, the recording of marriages has been prescribed ever since the beginning of the state. An act of 1819[1] directed the county clerks to keep a record of marriage licenses issued, and to record certificates of solemnization of marriages by justices of the peace and ministers. The act designated the record of the certificate as the evidence of marriage. Licenses were at first unnecessary unless public notice had not been given by publication of the banns or by posting a notice, but for many years past they have been obligatory to a marriage.[2] From the first, however, the law has prescribed that a license to a groom under

[1]Act of February 20, 1819, *Laws of 1819*, pp. 26 *et seq.* Among territorial acts, one of 1798 prescribed the recording of the returns by the county register (*Laws of the territory of the United States north-west of the river Ohio, 1798*, p. 30). An Indiana act of 1806 (*Laws passed at the second session of the first general assembly of the Indiana territory*) prescribed the recording of marriage licenses by the common pleas clerks and returns to them instead of the registers.

[2]*Revised statutes, 1845*, p. 353.

twenty-one or a bride under eighteen should be issued only in case the parent or guardian of the minor consented.

At different periods and in different counties there has been wide variation in the type of record kept in accordance with the law of 1819. The form ordinarily used at first was a register giving the date of the marriage, the names of the parties, and the name of the person who reported the marriage. Frequently the record also included the number of the license, the date of the license, of the marriage, of the return, and in a few instances the date and name of person recording it.

As had been said, there are several variations from this main type. One of them consists of a register of the parties and the date, together with a record at length of the certificate returned. In a few instances, most of them of early inception, but of long continuance, the certificate only was recorded. More frequently the certificates and licenses were recorded together. As a general rule, however, records of these last named types do not date back so far as the register type, though in Alexander they existed after 1819. The Edwards county certificate record begins in 1815. At any one of three well-defined periods, 1855, 1874, or 1881, any one of these records is likely to have added to it the ages of the parties married. At present, whenever a record other than the board of health form is kept, it is either of the license, certificate, or register type.

In addition to these records, nearly every county has a book record of applications for marriage licenses. Sometimes this record begins in 1878-1881, sometimes in 1892-1894, and sometimes in 1903-1905, for with

this, as with many other records, one finds forms adopted at certain well-defined periods, apparently without specific intervention by law. The application record is usually a quarto, having on each page a series of printed questions to be put directly to the applicant for a license, and blank spaces for his answers. The questions are framed to discover anything contravening the law of the state in the circumstances of the marriage—if either party is under marriageable age, and the bride especially; if both parties are of age, and if either has been divorced within the proscribed period, etc. A space is also provided for recording the consent of the parent or guardian in case either party to the marriage is a minor.

Before one passes judgment on this record it must be admitted that it is one of the most human and amusing in the courthouse. Frequently a clerk conscientiously records the answers down to the last syllable of the affiant's embarrassed "yessirs." Occasionally he preserves the answer of a youth so nervous that he has been forced to assume an air of flippancy and answer "you bet I do" when asked if he states positively that his bride is over sixteen years of age. Moreover, in the records are frequently pasted the scrawled and cramped letters in which parents or guardians have given their consent to the marriage of a minor child.

However, in spite of its interest, the record as usually kept must be condemned as extremely wasteful. In the first place a form for parents' consents, although not required in one case out of five or ten, is sometimes included on each page of the record.[1] Further it is

[1]It is true, however, that in the majority of records used at present the consent form is kept in a separate book or a separate part of a book.

universally true that the question and answer arrangement is a needless waste of space. The only thing in its favor is the possibility that a man about to make a perjured affidavit may be deterred by seeing his answer to each point written down as made. Leaving this doubtful advantage, however, a full legal record could certainly be obtained if the applicant were merely required to sign a declaration that could be compressed into half a dozen printed lines. Such a form would use one-fourth of the space required by the present one and for all practical purposes would be as effective. In a few of the largest counties the Cook county system might possibly be applied with even greater economy. Under this system a slip containing on one side the affidavits and on the other the parents' consent, if necessary, is filed along with the returned license. The one objection to this system is the danger of stolen affidavits. In the Chicago office the public is carefully excluded from the part of the marriage record vault containing the files, and an attendant is constantly on watch to see that there is no tampering with the records. The reason for precautions is apparent when it is remembered that the penalty for a false affidavit is fine and imprisonment, and that the loss of the slip containing the affidavit would in all probability severely embarrass the prosecution. For a small county where the public has the free run of the vaults a book record is essential. Where some supervision of the files can be attempted, the other system is preferable on grounds of economy.

One other comment may be made on the subject of marriage license application records. In many counties individual pages have been cut out of certain

volumes. While the fact that these mutilations usually occur in the blank parts of the book suggests that pages have been taken as specimens of the form or for some equally innocent purpose, such defacement of a book record is a bad commentary on the local ideals of record keeping. The practice should be discontinued for the future, and where possible, some notation of the reason for the mutilation should be added to the volume itself.

To sum up, therefore, the following marriage records would seem appropriate for the average county. First, a marriage application record in the condensed form indicated above, with "parents' consents" in a separate part of the book or in a separate book; second, for the marriage record proper the board of health form which complies with the statutory requirement that a register of certificates of marriage be kept. The keeping of both a marriage register and a marriage certificate record is a waste of both time and record space and should be discontinued at once.

VIII. County Clerk—Miscellaneous

After all the possibilities of correlation and classification have been exhausted there remain in the county clerk's office a number of records that can be cataloged only as "miscellaneous." Some of them, such as the registers of town and county officers and the record of their bonds are current. Some, while still prescribed by law, such as records of marks and brands and estrays, are no longer kept because as a result of changed conditions the material to record in them is no longer filed. Still others, as the militia rolls of 1861-1862, represent merely some special crisis in the state's history. And lastly there are certain papers, such as election returns, that are merely filed with the clerk.

Most counties keep a register of the commissions of county officers, which specifies the dates of election and qualification and also the date of the resignation or the expiration of term. Sometimes a register of constables and justices of the peace has been kept with the first named record. This second record, when kept separately, has been begun at varying dates from 1831 to 1865.[1] As to records of official bonds, the volumes for constables and justices of the peace date usually from 1877-1881. A record of bonds of assessors and supervisors of assessment has been kept since 1899.[2]

Registers of marks and brands, and records of estrays —stray animals, boats, etc., picked up and recorded

[1] An act of January 10, 1827, prescribed a register of justices of the peace with the dates of their commissions and resignations. (*Laws of 1827*, p. 200.) Both constables and justices are specified in the *Revised statutes, 1845*, ch. 59, secs. 14-15, p. 315.

[2] *Laws of 1898*, p. 39.

with the county clerks—have been kept in every county since its formation. Both records are a survival of the days when much of Illinois was unfenced pasture land, and an unbranded animal might easily stray outside the neighborhood where its ownership would be easily recognized. Today they are almost obsolete. Entries have been very sparse for thirty years back, and generally have ceased almost completely for ten or fifteen. The earliest little volumes of records, some of them not more than six inches square, are strange, homemade affairs. In Vermilion there is an early register of stock marks in which, for a few years, besides the description of the brand was drawn a rude sketch of the head and ears of the animal with the crop indicated on them in red ink. In Mercer county there is one even stranger. Here opposite each entry the full figure of the cow is drawn, with the brand shown on the flank and the crop on the head.

One or two records ordinarily kept about the time of the Civil War need only to be mentioned. About 1865 county clerks generally supplied themselves with form books in which to record licenses permitting the sale within the county of some patented article. Usually there are but two or three entries in each book. Of records more immediately connected with the Civil War every county has a record of the rolls of its militia for the years 1861–1863.[1] Occasionally also there are records of bounties paid to volunteers or accounts of bounty funds.

Among other records covering but a single period of the history of the state may be mentioned swamp land records. An act of Congress of 1850 transferred

[1]Act of May 2, 1861, *2 Laws of 1861*, p. 17.

to the various states formed out of the national domain the swamp and overflowed lands within their borders for the purpose of drainage and reclamation. By act of June 22, 1852[1] the state legislature vested the title to such lands in the counties within which they lay. The auditor was directed by the act to provide each county clerk with a record of the swamp lands in his county. On the lands in this list the county court was to fix a price in proportion to their condition and value as certified by the county surveyor. The drainage commissioner of the county was to sell such a part of them as would provide funds to drain the rest, noting in a book a record of his sales. However in 1859 a second act[2] permitted the sale of swamp lands without limitation. The swamp land records found in county offices usually run from about 1852 to 1860 or 1865 and are two in number: one the surveyor's reports as to the kind and value of the various tracts of land; the other the reports of sales, including amount sold, price paid, and purchaser.

Lastly county clerks' offices usually contain numerous files of miscellaneous papers, besides those already detailed. The great majority of these miscellaneous files are license files. Thus there are files of licenses to hunters and licenses to persons collecting birds' eggs, etc., for scientific purposes;[3] licenses for dogs,[4] which were to be returned by county assessors and listed against their owners in the collector's books. There are also papers relating to bounties of various kinds—

[1]*Laws of 1852*, p. 178.
[2]*Laws of 1859*, p. 201.
[3]*Laws of 1903*, p. 206; *Laws of 1913*, p. 371.
[4]*Laws of 1879*, p. 54.

bounties on the killing of English sparrows,[1] groundhogs,[2] and wolves; for strange as it may seem to city dwellers, the prairie wolf is still an unwelcome visitor in the bottoms of the Mississippi and Illinois rivers and in the hilly uplands.[3]

One last file of papers may be mentioned—one which the average county clerk might be disposed to class as less interesting and useful than those named above, but nevertheless one of great interest to the historical student—election returns. At present the accumulations of poll books, tally sheets, and returned ballots that are filed with the county clerk are destroyed within a fixed period after the election. But though in many counties clerks have applied the same principle of destruction to their earlier files of election returns, in many others sets of returns both early and complete survive. Normally the files contain for each election one poll book and one tally sheet from each precinct, and a general abstract of the returns made by the county clerk himself. This last is the only record kept at present. The poll books and tally sheets are invaluable additions to this record for the earlier period as they enable a student not only to trace the vote in each district, but also—since from 1829 to 1849[4] voting was viva voce, and each man's vote was recorded opposite his name—enable him to trace the votes of an individual or a clique over a series of

[1] Created under the act of 1891, *Laws of 1891*, p. 201; repealed by act of 1901, *Laws of 1901*, p. 93.

[2] *Laws of 1907*, p. 9.

[3] Act of May 18, 1877, *Laws of 1877*, p. 217.

[4] Act of February 3, 1821, *Laws of 1821*, p. 74; *Laws of 1829*, p. 57. An act of March 1, 1819 provided for balloting. (*Laws of 1819*, p. 94.) So did the acts of January 3, 1823 and February 12, 1849. *Laws of 1823*, p. 57; *1 Laws of 1849*, p. 74.

years. Such a record enables the student to gauge the causes of the rise or decline of a party as accurately as does a politician of the present day.

The existence of a record of this type as well as its nonexistence in counties where it has been destroyed to gain space is a strong argument for at least partial centralization of records. Certainly where a record has so little present-day legal value that it is neglected or destroyed by its guardians, and yet possesses such superlative historical value, it should be removed from the custody of county officials who do not care for it to repositories of historical material where it can be properly preserved and conveniently studied.

IX. Clerk of the Probate Court

Probate jurisdiction in Illinois has changed hands so often that for the sake of clearness it may be well to review the long series of courts and persons that have exercised it. In the early days of the Northwest territory a probate judge and clerk in each county performed all probate functions with the occasional concurrence of justices of the common pleas court.[1] An orphans' court composed of the justices of quarter sessions sitting on probate matters was placed above the probate judge in 1795.[2] The orphans' court, however, was displaced by the court of common pleas as established by the act of 1805 in Indiana territory.[3] An act of 1816–1817[4] refers to the clerks of county courts as exercising jurisdiction. Thus in the territorial period of thirty years the probate function three times changed hands.

With the formation of the state, changes went on almost as rapidly. An act of 1819 intrusted probate matters to the county commissioners' courts.[5] Two years later a new act directed the legislature[6] to choose for each county a judge of probate, who should also

[1] *Laws passed in the territory of the United States, north-west of the river Ohio, from the commencement of the government to the 31st of December, 1791*, p. 13. A year or two later the judge of probate was given jurisdiction in cases of insanity. (*Laws passed in the territory of the United States, north-west of the river Ohio, 1792*, 41.) This was repealed in 1795 (*Maxwell's code*, 180). The same code abolished the clerk of probate. *Ibid.*, 178.

[2] *Ibid.*, 81. The term, "clerk of the orphans' court" appears in a fee act of 1792. *Laws passed in the territory of the United States, north-west of the river Ohio, 1792*, p. 60.

[3] *Laws passed at the first session of the general assembly of the Indiana territory*, 14.

[4] *Laws passed by the legislative council and house of representatives of Illinois territory, 1816–17*, p. 481.

[5] Act of March 23, 1819, *Laws of 1819*, p. 223.

[6] Act of February 10, 1821, *Laws of 1821*, p. 119.

perform the duties of a probate clerk. After 1839[1] this official gave place to an elective probate justice of the peace who reported his judicial proceedings from time to time to the circuit court. The constitution of 1848[2] and an act of 1849,[3] respectively assigned probate jurisdiction to the county judge, and custody of probate records to the county clerk. The constitution of 1870[4] permitted the legislature to establish a probate judge in all counties having a population in excess of fifty thousand—a figure raised in the act of 1877[5] to one hundred thousand, and again reduced in 1881 to seventy thousand. Today in all counties above this size the probate and county offices are distinct; in smaller ones probate functions are performed by the county clerk and county judge.

The scope of probate jurisdiction has also varied. Thus in 1823 the appointment and supervision of conservators was vested in the circuit judges,[6] who retained jurisdiction concurrent with the county courts as late as 1869.[7] The power of ordering sales of real estate to pay debts was granted to the county commissioners in 1819,[8] and to the circuit court in 1821[9] to be held by it exclusively until 1849.[10] On the other hand the probate court for a time was invested with original

[1] *1 Laws of 1837*, pp. 176 *et seq.*

[2] Art. v, sec. 18.

[3] Act of February 12, 1849, *1 Laws of 1849*, p. 62.

[4] Art vi, sec. 20.

[5] Act of April 27, 1877, *Laws of 1877*, p. 79; May 21, 1881, *Laws of 1881*, p. 72.

[6] Act of February 12, 1823, *Laws of 1823*, p. 133.

[7] Act of April 19, 1869, *Laws of 1869*, p. 364.

[8] Act of March 23, 1819, *Laws of 1819*, p. 226.

[9] Act of February 2, 1821, *Laws of 1821*, p. 72.

[10] Till 1874 the circuit court had exclusive jurisdiction of the sale of real estate of idiots, lunatics, and minor heirs.

jurisdiction in so alien a matter as the release of insolvent debtors.[1] Only gradually in the twilight of related jurisdictions does the sharp outline of probate functions proper become apparent.

The content of probate records was fixed by legislation at comparatively early dates. To go no further back than the establishment of the state, the act of 1819[2] required clerks to record wills, the proofs thereof, letters testamentary, and letters of administration "with all things concerning the same." The act of 1821[3] transferring jurisdiction to the judge of probate directed him to record his proceedings in a book. Eight years later[4] the laws further specified among his duties the keeping complete records of wills and their probate, letters testamentary, and letters of administration —"either with or without will annexed, de bonis non, or to collect." In addition he must record all bonds of executors or administrators, all inventories, appraisements, sale bills—and further keep an "alphabet of reference" to the page, names of parties and amount of such exhibits, inventories, appraisements, and sale bills. He must also docket all controversies on his records, specifying the names, evidence, and his decision, and record in well-bound books the accounts of executors and administrators. Lastly he must preserve all wills, oaths, bonds, inventories, sale bills, accounts current, and transcripts of settlement—in a word the probate files of papers.

An act of 1831[5] directed him to enter the amounts

[1] *Laws of 1821*, p. 121.
[2] *Laws of 1819*, p. 223.
[3] *Laws of 1821*, p. 119.
[4] *Laws of 1829*, pp. 215, 231. This is the first mention of appraisement.
[5] Act of February 14, 1831, *Laws of 1831*, p. 191.

of inventories, appraisements, sale bills, etc., under a proper heading for "easy reference." Further, the act specified it as his duty to enter in books of record all matters, controversies, and suits that arose for decision or adjudication, together with the judgment or opinion of the court. In 1859[1] a statute, which had most important effects on the form of probate records, required the clerk to keep separate books for the court journal and settlements, for bonds, for inventories and sale bills, and for ledger accounts of estates administered. It also prescribed rudimentary forms for estate and judgment dockets. With the exception of an act of 1865 permitting the use of printed form records, later legislation has influenced the content rather than the form of records.[2]

The relation of these records one to another will be clearer if the general course taken by probate is indicated. In the case of an estate the records begin with the application to the probate court for letters of administration of an intestate estate, or for proof of will in the case of a testate one. In either case there usually is recorded the petition for probate of will and letters, the proof of the will, and of the death of the person whose estate is in question; the oath of the administrator or executor, the bond, the order of the court for the issue of letters, the letters and the appointment of appraisers. Next comes the filing of the inventory of the estate by the executor or administrator and the sworn appraisement by the appraisers; both of these are usually recorded together with the provision set aside for the widow by the appraisers. Originally

[1] Act of February 21, 1859, *Laws of 1859*, p. 92.
[2] Act of February 16, 1865, *Laws of 1865*, p. 93.

the widow's award consisted of a list of household necessaries which she might relinquish, selecting other property of like value in exchange. At present it is the family fixtures, the wearing apparel of the widow and the minor children, and a sum of money sufficient for her support for a year, or at her election other personal property in lieu thereof.[1]

The actual settlement of the estate then proceeds. The claims of creditors are filed, arranged in classes for priority of payment according to their nature, docketed, and adjudicated by the court. Where sale of personal property is necessary to administer the estate, the administrator or executor files a bill of sale showing the price received for each article. The administrator or executor annually reports to the court his progress in liquidating the estate and presents a final report at the end of his stewardship. In case it prove necessary to sell real estate to pay the debts of the estate, the administrator must make special application to the court which sets a day for a hearing and cites all persons interested as defendants. The record of the procedure in this case usually includes the petition, the decree of the court, and the report of the sale.

To the archivist the Illinois probate records offer a problem at once difficult and interesting. As can

[1] The items prescribed for the widow's award by successive acts are not without interest. Thus the act of February 12, 1823 specified a bed, a horse, bridle and saddle, a spinning wheel and cards, and a milch cow. (*Laws of 1823*, p. 127.) In 1847 it was fixed at beds and bed clothing for the family, household and kitchen furniture, spinning wheel, loom, pair of cards, stove and pipe, family wearing apparel, a milch cow and calf for each four persons, horse, woman's saddle and bridle, one year's provisions, and two sheep for each member of the family; feed for six months, fuel for three months, and sixty dollars of other property. (Act of February 11, 1847, *Laws of 1847*, p. 168.) Since 1909 the award has been merely the family pictures, the wearing apparel and jewels of the widow and the minor children, and a sum of money sufficient to maintain the family for a year. *Laws of 1909*, p. 1.

readily be imagined, to devise an orderly system of records for proceedings so diverse is far from easy. Questions of the use of printed forms, of the combination of different types of records in the same volume occur at once and in difficult form. At the same time the evolution by which the usual current system of twenty to thirty different forms has come into being is one that appeals to the imagination. In any county as the chain of records is followed back, records latterly kept in different volumes unite in a single one, printed forms become simpler, pass through experimental stages, and finally give place to manuscript records; these again, it may be, as we approach the days of pioneer Illinois, share small and quaint volumes with records of taxation and county government.

Examples of the records kept in counties which date from the territorial period may be interesting. The volume in St. Clair county labeled the "record of the orphan's court," dating from 1796 to 1816, sufficed for judicial and county commissioners' records. However, in this instance a separate record for wills was kept after 1794. After 1809 Randolph had a separate probate court record; but a volume containing the county commissioners' record, 1814–1824, was used for probate letters, reports, and settlements. In the case of Madison a single book sufficed for all business till 1818 when a separate one was set apart for wills; but till three years later county and probate records had to share the same book. In Jefferson they did likewise till 1831.

In the period of the first state constitution, probate records, while ordinarily set apart from other records, were kept in a simple fashion. In many counties one

book or one series of books sufficed both for documents such as applications for letters, letters, oaths, bonds, wills, sale bills, inventories, appraisements, accounts, and final reports, and also for the decisions of the court on the allowance of claims and for its other formal orders. At least a quarter of the Illinois counties kept their probate records in such simple fashion. Not all the counties kept so much as is here mentioned. Sometimes the single record kept partakes more exclusively of the character of a court journal, and we look in vain for records of papers such as inventories and reports.

When in the thirties and forties the counties began to differentiate their probate records a little it is not always easy to state the principle on which these were divided. Occasionally bonds, letters, wills, etc., were kept in one record, and inventories, appraisements, sale bills, and the adjudication of claims in another. Some counties had a separate record for reports and accounts, such as Stephenson. Others, such as Tazewell, had from the earliest dates a separate will record. Sometimes the logical division was followed, and in one book were recorded papers, and in the other the actions and decrees of the court.[1]

Further differentiations of record before 1849 are not so easily classified. At times a county maintains a separate probate judgment docket or estate docket in which to record the adjudication of claims. Grundy and Livingston among others do this. Others, such as Jackson, differentiate clearly the court record, the claims docket, and the record of wills and bonds. Some, such as Hancock, maintain in addition a will record separate from the papers record. Hamilton separates

[1] Of this Hancock and Jersey are examples.

its inventory, appraisement, and sale bills from all other records after 1840. Peoria does likewise, adding after 1836 a volume for administrators' accounts and reports. McLean follows about the same procedure. Its will record is separate after 1838, its probate docket after 1838, and its inventory appraisement and sale records, and its report records after 1845 and 1847 respectively. Morgan had adopted the same procedure from fifteen to twenty years earlier. Between 1824–1838 it set separate records for its wills, accounts, inventories, bonds and letters, and estate ledgers. Randolph employed separate records for wills and letters in 1826, and for inventories and for bonds in 1829. St. Clair followed a strange system of division by setting off from the probate record, bonds and letters of guardians in 1829, and of administrators in 1831, while maintaining a separate record of wills after 1794. Truly the investigator who seeks to describe the probate record series of the Illinois counties previous to 1849 finds himself reduced to recounting a tangle of individual instances.

Since 1849 the differentiation of probate records has gone on rapidly. Directed by a probate act of 1859 which specified five records to be kept in separate books, it was perhaps guided in some measure by firms of stationers who began to devise books of printed forms for the keeping of probate records—a method given official sanction by an act of 1865. Whatever the cause, however, the uniformity of development exhibited by probate records of various counties, between 1859 and 1870, permits of broad generalizations. In the period specified, the probate journal, though sometimes even now including additional material, becomes a manuscript

record of the probate judge's orders and decrees. Sometimes of recent years it has been supplemented by a printed form record of judgments on claims. As a result of the act of 1859, most counties by 1865 had adopted a separate book for administrators', executors', and guardians' records. This record, which in a few counties replaced an earlier printed-form book for probate bonds, includes forms for petitions, for letters of administration, executorship, or guardianship, for the bond and the oath of executorship, administration or guardianship, and in some instances for the formal court order appointing appraisers for the estate. Normally this takes up a two-page form which is usually fairly economical. When first introduced this record contains forms for administrators, conservators, executors, and guardians, or at least for executors and administrators. Since the seventies and eighties the tendency has been to keep the four in separate volumes. However in the case of the smaller county the earlier system might still be economcal if carefully used—if the clerk in ordering the composition of his volume endeavored to determine carefully the relative proportions of the three forms he would be likely to require in a given period. If this were not done, much waste of space would result.

Since 1870 or thereabouts separate records have ordinarily been kept for the appointment, bonds, and letters of conservators, appointed to safeguard the property of persons found to be insane; and since 1893 in many cases a single form has been used to cover both the "insane" and the "conservator" records required by law. Usually this includes the representation to the county court that a certain person is distracted,

the county judge's order for a trial of the issue, the trial by a commission of two physicians or by six jurors, the verdict, and the appointment of a conservator.

The insuperable objection to the employment of a record of this type is that the adjudication of a person to be insane is a function of the county judge, but the appointment of a conservator is a probate function. In a few instances a far worse mistake of similar order has been committed—admitting county and probate records to the same volumes. In either case when a county's population necessitates the establishment of a separate probate record office, it may prove impossible to divide the records of the two jurisdictions exactly, for the reason that both have records in the one book.

Will records usually date from about the year 1859; normally they are manuscript, but in a few instances they include a printed form for the proof of the will and a blank space to record its text. Sometimes also they include an additional printed form for the record of the executor of the will. Since use of the forms last mentioned involves wasting space when the text of the will itself is too long or too short for the space assigned it, they are not admissible. If such a combination is desired the better way is to follow the system pursued in the Chicago probate office—stamp the forms for the proof of the will and the appointment of an executor in a blank record with rubber stamps. In this manner it is possible to adjust an economical printed form exactly to the length of the manuscript record, and effect a double saving of space.

Most counties maintain a separate bond record for miscellaneous probate bonds, bonds and letters of

administrators appointed "de bonis non" and "de bonis non with will annexed" to supervise the settling of a foreign estate or to replace a deceased administrator. Sometimes these bonds and letters are entered in a manuscript book, and sometimes in separate form books containing three or four different forms.

Inventories, appraisements, and sale bills between 1860 and 1867 were ordinarily kept all together in one series of volumes; but after the date last mentioned the printed-form records came into general use. To them applies the same criticism made on the combination of will records and executors' records—the insuperable difficulty of combining in economical fashion a comparatively short form heading and certificate with a list of varying length. In the case of appraisals there is least trouble because the printed form is there most extensive. But in the case of sale bills there is great waste in the printed form. In certain cases an attempt has been made to obviate it by combining a two- and a four-page form in the same book, but this only emphasizes the fact that the printed form is essentially wasteful. It is worse still when a printer undertakes to combine all three of the records into one form. In one county a combination inventory, appraisement, and sale bill form was found, covering for each entry ten pages. Its preposterousness needs no comment.

The widow's relinquishment and selection, and the records for the sale of real estate present no particular problem. In either case there is a fairly elaborate series of forms, and the entry is usually of a fairly constant type. The report records as ordinarily kept are a simple ledger account and are economical.

Probate fee books are still another type of record

in which there is a lamentable waste of space. The ordinary form allots to each estate one page on which are printed a great number of fee items, the great majority never being filled out. In the Cook county office there is excuse for this, as the fee book is identical in volume and page with the estate docket; in such cases the necessity of maintaining a convenient office system must temper any criticism of the method of record keeping.

A mention of probate dockets carries us at once into the worst maze of variable nomenclature to be found among county records. The only terms for which a standard authority may be found are in the act of 1859, which prescribed the keeping of two dockets. One, which the act termed "Judgment Docket," was to have the following headings: name of claimant and estate, nature and amount of claim, memorandum of summons and notice, and judgment of court. So far we are on comparatively simple ground. Under the name of probate judgment docket or claim docket this record is kept in the large majority of instances and has been kept since 1859 or a date even earlier. It is used to record the court's action on claims for sums due from estates in course of adjudication. In very many instances a second docket of related use is kept to record the actions taken before the probate judge. It is termed the judge's docket and in form is similar to the docket similarly named in other courts. These dockets, however, are the most uniform of their class.

Difficulties multiply in the case of the other docket prescribed in 1859. Here the headings are: name of deceased and administrator, date of letters, amount of bond and names of sureties, widow and heirs, when

inventory and sale bill were filed, and amount of sale bill. This is the rudimentary form of an estate docket. Frequently this record as now kept includes also a list of claims filed against the estate. If these are debited against sums credited as accruing from the administration of the estate, the book becomes an estate ledger; and this again glides into an account current or report record—a record of the financial reports of administrators, etc. And finally a separate record, entitled "Claims against Estates" may have on the page allotted to each estate a register of the claims filed against it. Here are a half dozen records of similar type but varying form and designation and any three or even any six of them may exist in one county at the same or different times. At such a pass generalization becomes impossible.

The archivist's conclusions on the keeping of probate records will center on the problem of economy of space. Undoubtedly form books have played a most important part in making uniform the probate records of the state, but their use has wasted space in the past to a lamentable degree; in every type of record mentioned above change after change has taken place in the forms used, and in every case a series of books has been left on hand not a fourth, a tenth, a twentieth, a hundredth used. Nevertheless the tendency has been to correlate them more closely to actual conditions. At present in many instances they are now moderately economical devices. Even when this cannot be said of them, it is undoubtedly true that they perform a considerable service in assisting an inexperienced clerk to get the run of his duties. However, clerks should learn their duties in some other way than by the waste of record space, and

in the future the correlation of the document to be recorded must become even closer. Where printed forms will not fit closely, they should not be used. The masses of unused printed-form volumes that fill up too many precious spaces in the small vaults of the little counties should be disposed of, and no longer retained in the distant hope that some day a document may be filed that can be fitted to the form. The mistakes of the past should be repaired as far as possible in the case of all old books of forms that have missed their mark by rebinding in some fashion the few pages of writing contained in each, and selling the blank pages for waste paper. Perhaps for the future the solution of economical records lies, at least for the counties where the clerk does the bulk of his own work, in the use of loose-leaf records such as have been installed in De Kalb. Apart from the advantage of binding together all the records pertaining to a given estate, a completed record book of this form would contain no more paper than is actually covered with records.

To the social historian probate records have a high importance. They afford in wills, accounts, and settlements of estates the most reliable information in the existence and distribution of wealth. The various lists, appraisements, and sale bills of items of personal property afford an equally valuable index to the degree of culture and civilization that the community has attained. A bare suggestion of what the probate records may here offer us may be obtained by comparing the contents of widow's awards at various periods. The transition from the spinning wheel and cards and the milch cow and fleeces to the "stove with pipe for

the same," and finally to the family pictures, wearing apparel, and jewelry, and a fixed sum of money suggests a good deal of social history. Finally the early probate records of Illinois in their very disorder, confusion, and informality help us to imagine capricious and wayward clerks and probate justices, not as yet conventionalized by fixed forms. Occasionally the feelings of a judge or a clerk may find vent in his record, as for example when a probate judge spreads on his journal an oration he has delivered in open court appealing to principles of American democracy, liberty, and equality, to show why a widow's award should not be proportioned to her contenement. Such a whimsy, doubly naïve for its appearance in a formal court record, brings us very close to the spirit of provincial Illinois.

COUNTY ARCHIVES OF ILLINOIS

COOK COUNTY[1]

The county was established in 1831 from territory attached to Putnam; the county seat is Chicago.

The records of Cook county that have accumulated since the fire of October 9, 1871, are housed in two buildings: the county building which with the Chicago city hall occupies an entire block in the busiest part of downtown Chicago, and the county jail, which contains the records of the criminal court, as well as certain duplicate recorders' records deposited there for safe-keeping. This building is perhaps three-fourths of a mile from the other in a less busy section of the city. Both these buildings are fireproof. The vaults in them, with one exception, are sufficient to the demands made upon them, although the vault in the criminal court clerk's office—a four story affair—is inconvenient. In the county building one whole mezzanine floor—the "three and a half"—is set aside for storage vaults, in addition to the various vaults in the offices. In two or three offices somewhat rusty filingboxes are still in use, but the filing equipment, generally speaking, is modern.

No attempt has been made to criticize the methods of record keeping and filing followed in these offices. The volume of business passing through them has compelled the adoption of orderly and logical systems—and to criticize them effectively, a far more intensive survey than was possible in the time allotted would be necessary. On the surface but a few minor details of unutilized record space that appear to be defects have been noted; and they will not be indicated here. In an especial sense the Cook county records are not merely archives, but are also the tools employed by elaborately organized office forces with multifold public services to perform; and to criticize them fairly one has need to be both archivist and business expert.

[1] Examined March–April, 1914.

In Cook county the volume of business transacted by the county offices has necessarily led to a multiplication of offices and departments. The records of the juvenile court are in the hands of a clerk who is subordinate to the clerk of the circuit court, and beside the circuit court is a superior court with practically identical jurisdiction. Not only are probate records under the charge of an independent clerk, but also the records of the board of assessors and the board of review are in the keeping of the clerks of those offices and all three are equally independent of the county clerk.

Furthermore, the duties still assigned to the county clerk's office are distributed among various departments. Thus the office dealing with birth and death returns and the issue of marriage licenses is on the second floor in the county building with the county clerk's office. Separate departments there have charge of the receipt and the recording of fees, the registering of office correspondence, etc., the receipt of tax redemptions, and the business relating to elections, miscellaneous licenses, etc. On the same floor is the department of tax extension and the county map department. On another floor is the office of the comptroller who acts as deputy of the county clerk, and lastly on still another, the clerk of the county court, who also is a deputy of the county clerk.

The office of the county clerk, devoted to the records of the county court, is on the sixth floor of the court house. A large vault on this floor houses the book records and the more recent files. A large vault on the "three-and-a-half" floor contains the earlier files and a few miscellaneous record books.

COUNTY CLERK

Comptroller

Since 1887 the county clerk of Cook county has been ex officio comptroller. The duties of the comptroller are performed in a separate office by a deputy of the county clerk, who has in his charge all the records of the county clerk pertaining to the county board. This office is on the sixth floor of the courthouse. On this floor is a small vault for current records, and

on the "three and a half" floor a larger one where disused records are kept.

COUNTY BOARD PROCEEDINGS,[1] ETC.

County Board Record of Proceedings, 1875–1897, 23 v. (5–31, v. 8, 20, 24, 30 missing), in 3½ vault.

Since 1897 the printed record has been taken directly from the minutes and is the official record.

Record of Proceedings of Committee on Public Service, 1887–1898, 6 v., in 3½ vault.

Minute Book (committee clerk), 1890–1892, 1 v., in 3½ vault.

Register of Petitions and Communications (with their disposition), 1889–1896, 4 v. (2–5), in 3½ vault; c. 6 v., current.

This is a register of petitions, documents, etc., and their disposition.

Register of Petitions, Documents, etc., Committee on Public Service, 1892–1897, 1 v., in 3½ vault.

Register of Claims, 1881–1903, 23 v. (A–B, 1, 2, 6–24); 1888–1889, 2 v., labeled "Claim Record," all in 3½ vault.

The contents note number, date filed, claimant and kind of supplies, amount, committee, disposition of, amount allowed, auditor, journal and page. This record has been discontinued; the bills as submitted now form the record.

Committee Clerks' Record of Claims, 1890–1891, 2 v., in 3½ vault.

LEDGERS, JOURNALS, ETC.

Ledgers, 1870–1888, 6 v., in 3½ vault.

General Ledger, 1902, 1 v., in 3½ vault.

Comptrollers' Individual Ledger, 1889–1908, 20 v., in 3½ vault.

Individual Ledger, Superintendent of Public Service, 1896, 1 v.; 1898, 1 v., in 3½ vault.

Comptrollers' General Ledger, 1889–1904, 15 v., in 3½ vault.

Department Expense Ledger, 1911–1912, 3 v.

Expenses of various accounts and various departments are recorded.

Comptrollers' Appropriation Ledger, 1903, 2 v.; 1905, 1 v., in 3½ vault.

Appropriations and bills against them are posted.

[1] *Revised statutes, 1913*, ch. 34, sec. 63, p. 652.

Loose-Leaf Appropriation Ledger Sheets, 1907–1910, 1 v.; 1911–date, 8 v., loose leaf; 1913, 1 v., current; debit—orders approved and invoices; and credit—expenditures in payment.

Journals, 1885–1889, 4 v., in 3½ vault.

Revenue Journal, 1911–date, 1 v.

Journal Summaries, 1911–1912, 2 v.

Loose-Leaf Journal of bills and accounts paid, 1912–1913, 2 v.

Loose-Leaf Journal, 1911, 1 v.

Individual Ledgers, 1909–1912, 4 v.

Loose-Leaf Revenue Ledger, current, 1 v.

Pencil Footings of Daily Receipts, 1912–date, 3 v.

Finance Committee Reports, 1906–1908, 2 v.; 1912, 1913, 2 v. (typed sheets)

Loose-Leaf Pay Rolls, 1913, 2 v.

ORDER AND RECEIPT BOOKS, ETC.

County Comptrollers' Order and Receipt Books, in 3½ vault: Jurors, 1889–1899, 12 v.; Elections, 1873–1903, 14 v.; Supplies, 1891–1903, 12 v.; Salaries, 1891–1903, 11 v.; Treasurers' Salaries, 1899–1903, 5 v.; Recorders' Salaries, 1898–1903, 6 v.; Insane Asylum, Dunning, 1890, 1895, 1898–1903, 8 v.; County Hospital, 1894–1903, 1904, 1906, 12 v.

Receipts for orders by the persons to whom they are issued.

Miscellaneous, 1889–1891, 3 v.; 1895, 3 v.

Receipt for Officers' Salaries, 1904–1910, 12 v., in 3½ vault.

Salary Pay Rolls, 1906–1909, 6 v.; 1900, 1903, 1910–1912, 15 v.

The system has been discontinued.

Register of Jurors: Criminal Court, 1893–1913, 4 v.; Superior Court, 1893–1910, 2 v.; Circuit Court, 1893–1913, 3 v.; County Court, 1893–1913, 1 v.

Register of Orders Issued for Birth Certificates, 1912–1913, 1 v.

Parents' Pension Roll, 1912–date, 1 v.

County Commissioners' Order Book, 1859–1870, 3 v., in 3½ vault; 1872–1879, 4 v. (6–9); 1881–1892, 8 v. (12, 13, bis 15, 17–20)

This is a register of orders with receipts of persons to whom issued.

Register of Vouchers and Warrants Issued, 1903, 1 v., in 3½ vault; 1907, 1 v.

Register of Orders, 1859–1870, 3 v., in 3½ vault.

Registered Warrants, 1913, 1 v.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Record of Bills from County Towns, 1912–1913, 1 v.

Accounts Receivable, 1911–date, 1 v.

Out of Door Relief Ledger, 1874–1877, 1882, 1883, 1885, 1886, 5 v., in 3½ vault.

This is a record showing person aided, for how long, and amount of aid each month.

Register of Current Bond Issues, 7 v.

Old Registers, 1866–1886, 1872–1892, 1892, 1880–1900, 1 v. each, in 3½ vault.

Sheriff's Register of Fees, 1873–1874, 1 v., in 3½ vault.

Sheriff's Reports of Levy, 1893, 1 v., in 3½ vault.

Mesne Book, Circuit Court, 1862–1867, 1 v., in 3½ vault.

The headings are number, title of suit, process, amount, date returnable, given to, returned, proceedings, return fees.

Cancelled Bonds and Coupons, in 3½ vault.

Cancelled Warrants, etc., 1902–1912, 140 large tin boxes and 450 f.b., in 3½ vault.

Current Files of communications, reports, vouchers, warrants.

Clerk of the County Court

COMMON LAW RECORDS

Common Law Record, 1871–date, ms. v. 11–59.

Record of Defaults, 1878–date, 3 v. (1-3)

Record of Confessions, 1878–1913, 1 v.

Bastardy Record, 1873–1874, 1 v., in 3½ vault.

This is a docket in form.

Minute Books, 1872–1902, 53 v. (1–32, 37–57), in 3½ vault; 1890–1892, 4 v.; 1900–1906, 9 v. (64, 67, 69–70, 73–76, 78)

Index to Court Records, 1878–date, 9 v. each for plaintiff and defendant.

Term Index, cases nos. 100–5000, 1 v.

Common Law Files, 1873–date, nos. 1–32750, 518 f.b.

Clerks' Docket, Common Law, 1877–date, 14 v. (A–N)

The headings are title of case, date, and remarks.

General Law Docket, 1873, cases nos. 1–900, 1 v. (A)

Judges' Docket, 1884–1890, 1 v., in 3½ vault.

Judgment Docket, 1878–1901, 7 v. (1–7)
Execution Docket, 1878–date, 3 v. (1–3)
Contempt Docket, 1903–date, 1 v.
Fee Book, 1878–date, 16 v. (1–16)

VOLUNTARY ASSIGNMENT RECORDS

Record of Voluntary Assignments, 1877–1900, 27 ms. v. ; 1878–1885, 1 v., in 3½ vault.
Record of Bonds of Assignees, 1880–1896, 2 v., in 3½ vault; 1893–1910, 2 v.
Record of Deeds, 1881–1893, 2 v., in 3½ vault; 1897–1910, 1 v.
Docket of Voluntary Assignments, 1878–1881, 1 v., in 3½ vault; 1895–date, 2 v.
Judges' Docket, Voluntary Assignment, 1879, 1 v., in 3½ vault.

DEPENDENT AND DELINQUENT CHILDRENS' RECORDS

Record of Dependent and Delinquent Boys and Girls, 1885–1899, 11 v. (1–11)

These merely record court action without reciting the petitions.

Dockets, 1884–1899, 2 v. (A–B)
Files, 1880–1899, cases nos. 1–6849, 40 f.b., in 3½ vault.

The contents include petition, writ, verdict of jury, and warrant of commitment.[1]

Orders and Decrees of Adoption, 1913–date, 1 v.

INSANITY RECORDS

Insane Court Record, 61 v. (1–61)

The contents include petition, order of court, report of jury trial and dis position of defendant; a one-page form is used.

"Commission" Record, 1913–date, 2 v.
Lunatic Court General Orders, 1895–date, 4 ms. v. (1–4)
Record of Restoration (of cured insane), 1901–date, 1 v.
Index to Lunatics, 1883–date, 6 v. (1–6)
Lunatic Files, nos. 1–45,290, 400 f.b.

The files contain petitions, certificates of preliminary examination, court orders, reports of jury or commission, transcripts of testimony, and history of cases.

[1]Since 1899 these records have been continued by the clerk of the juvenile court.

Lunatic Docket, 1882–date, 18 v. (2–19; v. 1 missing)

The headings are: name, date, orders of court, with subsequent history of case.

Lunatic and Insolvent Fee Book, 1871–1899, 6 v. (A–F); 1899–date, 7 v. (7–13)

INHERITANCE TAX RECORDS

Inheritance Tax Record (general orders), 1898–date, 16 v. (1–16)

Report of appraisers, court order adopting it, and items of tax due from each person are recorded.

Record of Appointment of Appraisers of Inheritance Tax, 1901–date, 9 v. (1–9)

Record of Inheritance Tax Receipts, 1898–1913, 9 v. (1–9)

This is a printed form showing real estate on which payment is made, appraised value, amount of tax, remarks, etc.

Inheritance Tax Papers, 1899–date, nos. 1–4851, 294 f.b.

Inheritance Tax Docket, 1897–date, 2 v.

The headings are estate, appraiser, and record of orders.

SPECIAL ASSESSMENT RECORDS

Record of Orders Confirming Special Assessments, 1873–1912, 29 v. (1–29)

Record of Defaults, Special Assessments, 1903–1912, 3 v. (1–3)

Court Records, General Assessment Orders, 1872–date, 51 v. (1–45, 1–6)

Volumes 27 *et seq.*, 1904–date, deal with Chicago exclusively; v. 1–6, 1904–date, deal with Cook county outside Chicago.

Orders Appointing Commissioners of Special Assessments: county towns, 1885–1897, 3 v. (3-5), in 3½ vault; Chicago, 1872–1897, 12 v. (1–12), in 3½ vault.

Minutes of Assessments and Special Election Matters, 1901–1911, 1 v.

Assessment Papers (city), 1873–1892, nos. 1–14354, 280 f.b., with some drawers in 3½ vault; 1892–date, nos. 14335–38296, 1012 f.b.

Assessment Papers (towns), 1873–1892, 117 f.b., in 3½ vault; 1890–date, 210 f.b.

The papers contain the original petition reciting the ordinance of city council or town with the appointment of commissioners; affidavits of

posting and public notice; assessment roll; objections to assessment, and orders reducing assessments; and certificate of date of first vouchers issued.

Special Assessment Docket, 31 v. (A–Z, A1–A5)

The headings are title of proceeding, number, petition filed, names of commissioners, when appointed, when roll is filed and certified to collector, remarks, and general abstract of proceedings.

TAX JUDGMENT RECORDS

Docket of Objections to Taxes, 1871–1898, 2 v.; 1899–date, 1 v. each for general taxes and special assessments.

The headings are number, name, objector, attorney, and order of court; for both general taxes and special assessments.

Docket of Objections to General Taxes, 1880–1886, 1 v.

Objector, attorney, description of property, why objected to, date of judgment, judgment of court, and remarks are the items given.

Docket of Objections to Taxes (short form), 1878–1887, 1 v., both general and special.

Index to Objections, 1873–1888, 1 v.

Tax Judgment Record, 1895–1906, 7 v. (1–7)

This is merely a record of court action. Since 1906 judgment has been entered only in the dockets and the collectors' books.

Record of Tax Deeds Issued, 1872–1873, 1 v.

The contents include date, number of deed, to whom issued, description, and where recorded (book and page).

NATURALIZATION RECORDS

Declaration of Intention, 1874–1906, 37 v. (1–36; two v. "4"); Index, 6 v.

General Record, 1874–1906, 11 v. (1-11)

Minors' Record, 1876–1906, 10 v. (1–10)

Record of Petitions, Marine Corps, 1906, 1 v.

Papers, 1876–1906, 80 f.b.

Index to Naturalizations, 1876–1906, 5 v.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Election Records, 1885–date, 13 v. (1–13)

Orders for elections in Chicago and the town of Cicero, appointments of judges and clerks, orders consequent on objections to such appointments, results of elections and abstracts of returns are recorded.

Miscellaneous Election Papers, 6 f.b.

Daily Register of Fees Earned and Received, 1879–1906, 5 v. (A–E), in 3½ vault.

Daily Earnings and Receipts of Clerk of County Court, 1908–date, 9 v.

Support Ledger, 1891–1908, 9 v. (1–9)

This is a record of funds paid for support by private persons on order of court.

Support Journal, 1897–1908, 4 v. (1–4)

General Ledger, 1887–1898, 4 v. (1–4)

Cash Books, Journals, Day Books, 1874–1908, c. 15 v.

Chancery Record, 1881–1882, 1 v., in 3½ vault.

Probate Record, 1871–1875, 1 ms. v., in 3½ vault.

Contents: bonds, letters, inventories, etc.

Register of Jurors, 1872–1873, 1 v., in 3½ vault.

Record of Appropriations to Roads, 1869, 1 v., in 3½ vault.

Register of County Orders, c. 1860–1863, 1 v., in 3½ vault.

Register of Probate Fees, 1876, 1 v., in 3½ vault.

Record of Limited Partnership, 1872–1875, 1 v., in 3½ vault.

County Clerk—Taxation

The taxation and miscellaneous records of the county clerk are in several different vaults. The older taxation records are in a basement vault (B.V.). The more recent ones are in a vault on the second floor, here referred to as the tax vault (T.V.). The tax extension office has a small vault of its own; and in the main office are three vaults—one for birth, death, and marriage records, one for miscellaneous records, and one known as the "cash vault" (C.V.).

TAX EXTENSION DEPARTMENT

Abstract of Tax Extension, 1885–date.

Railroad Schedules, 1893–date.

The schedules for 1871–1893 are in basement.

Certificates of Levy, 1871–date, c. 60 f.b.

COUNTY MAP DEPARTMENT

The duties of this department are as follows: It traces subdivisions and plats in the recorder's office and records them

on plats. It checks railroad schedules of land, entering all changes of ownership, and filing railroad right of way plats. It receives all complaints of errors in description and omitted assessments, and changes the rolls accordingly. It makes title searches for the tax extension department, records affidavits for tax exemption, records plats of park districts, and is engaged at present in accumulating certified railroad plats.

Plat Books of County, 44 v.

Record Book of School District Plats outside Chicago, 1 v.

Records of Clerks' Subdivision.

TAX RECORDS

Tabulated Statement of Taxes, 1872–1879, 14 v., B.V.

Assessors' Books, real estate, 1869–1899, 4387 v.; 1899–1902, 294 v.; 1903–1906, 311 v.; 1907–1910, 325 v., B.V.

Assessors' Books, personal property, 1871–1898, 895 v.; 1899–1907, c. 700 v., B.V.

Assessors' and Collectors' Books, 1880, 122 v., B.V.

Statements of Railroad Assessments, 1887–1898, 3 v., B.V.

Back Taxes and Forfeitures, added to warrants, 1870–1902, 60 v., B.V.; 1903–1911, 55 v., T.V.

Collectors' Warrants, real estate, 1870–1880, 982 v., B.V.; 1881–1904, T. V.; 1881–1888, c. 130 v. a year; 1888–1900, c. 225 v. a year; 1900–date, 290–337 v. a year.

Collectors' Warrants, personal property, 1871–1900, c. 1100 v., B.V.; 1901–1913, c. 120 v. a year, T.V.

Railroad Collectors' Books, 1871–1911, 138 v., T.V.

Collectors' Error and Abatement List, 1884, 1 v.; 1885, 1 v.; 1887, 1 v.; 1888, 1 v.; 1890, 1 v.; 1891, 1 v.; 1892, 1 v., B.V.; 1893–1912, 77 v., T.V.

Error and Abatement Record, 1871, 1 v.; 1872, 2 v.; 1873, 1 v.; 1874, 4 v.; 1876, 6 v.; 1877, 7 v.; 1878, 6 v.; 1879, 3 v.; 1880, 2 v.; 1881–1883, 1 v., B.V.

Delinquent Tax Records, 1854, 1 v.; 1855, 1 v.; 1856, 2 v.; 1859, 1 v.; 1867, 1 v.; 1868, 3 v.; 1869, 7 v.; 1870, 12 v.; 1871, 38 v.; 1872, 50 v.; 1873, 172 v.; 1874, 118 v.; 1875, 175 v.; 1876, 113 v.; 1877, 81 v.; 1878, 82 v.; 1879, 106 v.; 1880, 6 v.; 1881, 7 v.;

1882, 8 v.; 1883, 53 v.; 1884, 5 v.; 1885, 6 v.; 1887, 5 v.; 1888, 10 v., B.V.

Delinquent Tax Levies (roads), 1874–1904, 2 large boxes in B.V.

Sales Record, 1872, 5 v.; 1874, 2 v., B.V.

Abstracts, 1872, 1 v.; 1876, 4 v.; 1877, 4 v.; 1878, 4 v.; 1879, 3 v.; 1880, 5 v.; 1881–1883, 6 v., B.V.

Tax Judgment Record, 1871, 25 v.; 1872, 43 v.; 1873, 50 v.; 1874, 46 v.; 1875, 48 v.; 1876, 47 v.; 1877, 26 v.; 1878, 52 v.; 1879, 29 v., B.V.

Objections to Judgment Record, 1871, 1 v., B.V.

Sale and Redemption Record, 1873–1878, c. 45 v. a year, T.V.

Tax Sale Record, 1869–1872, 10 v., T.V.; 1893, 1 v., B.V.

Forfeiture Record, 1871, 2 v.; 1872, 1 v., B.V.

Tax Judgment, Sale and Redemption Record, 1880–1903, 3530 v., T.V.

Current volumes are in the office.

Appeals Record, 1872, 1 v.; 1873, 1 v.; 1874, 1 v.; 1876, 2 v., B.V.

Cancelled Certificates of Tax Sale, c. 1700 f.b., B.V.

Record of Cancellation and Filing of Certificates for Taxes, 1882–1903, 14 v. (1–14), B.V.

Volumes 15–22 are in miscellaneous vault. The headings are: number of certificate, kind of taxes, sale for taxes, the year of sale, date of collection, vault, box number, and records.

Surrendered Tax Certificates, in miscellaneous vault.

Stubs of the above, c. 1500 stubs in miscellaneous vault.

Redemption Receipt Record, 1899–1902, 4 v., B.V.; 1903–1909, 2 v., M.V.

The headings are: name, address, date received, description, amount assigned to, and date of disposition.

Redemption Estimate Record, 1899–1902, 4 v., B.V.; 1903–1908, 2 v., M.V.

The contents note deputy, name, date of record, address, and disposition.

Redemption Account Record, 1873–date, 49 v. (1–49), C.V.

This is a record of sums received for tax buyers in redemption of property from tax sales. The headings are: amount deposited with clerk, date, number, book, when and to whom paid, and certificate of sale number.

Documentary Record, 1871–1903, 397 v., B.V.

This is a record of certificates of sale, affidavits of value, and tax deeds.

Deed Records, 1885–date, 8 v., M.V.

The contents show names, date, number of folios, cost of recording and noting sales, cost of deed, amount of deed, total, date, and payment.

Documentary Record, 1904–1910, 85 v., T.V.

Certificates of sale and affidavits of notification with memorandum of tax deed are recorded.

City Comptroller Statement of Assessments, 1877, 9 v., B.V.

Lincoln Park Special Assessments, 1877–1891, c. 70 v., T.V.

Collectors' Books, Special Assessments, 1881–1910, c. 2000 v., T.V.

Miscellaneous Special Assessments, 1873–1880, 68 v., B.V.

VITAL STATISTICS

Marriage Applications and Returned Licenses, 680 f.b.

Marriage Register, 53 v. (1–53)

The present headings are: number, date of license, names of man and woman, date of marriage, by whom married, and date of return. A line runs across two pages; there are fifty lines to a double page.

Indexes: earlier index, 52 v., 1 v. each for male and female for each letter; later index, 16 v. (1–8), 2 v. for each number.

Indexes contain number of license, date of license, volume and page.

Register of Births, 1871–1877, 5 v. (A–E); 1877–date, 71 v. (1–71)

The board of health form with headings across two pages, and fifty lines to a page is used. Still births are recorded in red ink. In case of an illegitimate child the name of the putative father is not recorded.

Birth Certificates, 342 f.b.

Register of Deaths, 1878–date, 71 v. (1–71)

Board of health form, with headings across page, and fifty lines to a page, is used.

Death Certificates, 378 f.b.

Physicians' returns are on white, hospital returns on buff, coroners' returns on blue.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

(All in miscellaneous vault except where noted)

County Commissioners' Records, 1871–1875, 4 v., B.V.

Collectors' Returns, 1869–1871, 4 v., B.V.

Journals and Ledgers, 1887–1902, 4 v. each, B.V.

Cash Books, 1870–1880, 25 v., B.V.

Register of Jurors, 1871–1875, 1 v., B.V.

Letter Press Copies of Tax Deeds, 14 v.

Cashiers' Daily Reports of Receipts and Expenditures, 1877–1892, 16 v., B.V.

Justice of the Peace Dockets, 30 v., B.V.

Justice of the Peace Papers, several boxes, B.V.

Register of Trade Marks, 1901–1912, 1 v.

Index to Lodging House Affidavits Filed, 1903–date, 2 v.

Miscellaneous Papers, filed by number, nos. 1–36500, 1883–date; Index, 2 v.

Index to Official Bonds, county and township officers, 1871–date, 2 v.

Record of Justices of the Peace, Constables, and Police Magistrates, 1899–date, 5 v. (3–5, C.V.)

The contents give: name, date elected, bond filed, sworn in, commission, remarks, etc.

Register of Dram Shop Licenses "4," 1903, 1 v., C.V.

Register of Tavern Licenses, 1871–1873, 1 v., B.V.; 1884–1900, 3 v., B.V.

Appointments of County Clerks and Sheriffs' Deputies, 1886–1903, 1 v.; 1903–date, 2 v.

Leases, 1887–1901, 1 v.

Register of Justices of the Peace, 1870–1873, 1 v.

Register of Town Officers, 1871–date, 1 v., B.V.

Record of Limited Partnerships, 1875–date, 3 v.

Index to Hunters' Licenses, 1904–date, 3 v.

Register of Checks, 1907–date, 5 v., C.V.

The contents note number, date, drawer, drawee, indorsement, name of bank, location of bank, amount, etc.

Stub Books for Warrants Issued for Births, c. 1912–date.

Daily Register of Fees, 1873–1902, 5 v., B.V.; 1903–1910, 2 v.

Register of Cash Receipts, 1892–1906, 13 v. (15–27); 1906–date, 12 v. (1–12), C.V.

Itemized for redemptions, certified copies, and summary of amounts of marriage licenses, tax deeds, and cancellation fees.

Register of Correspondence, 1910–date, 1 v.

The register supersedes redemption estimates and receipt record.

Journals, 1903–1910, 2 v., C.V.

Ledgers, 1903–1910, 2 v., C.V.

Record of Notaries Public (current), 1 v., in office.

Record of signatures.

ELECTION RETURNS

Abstracts, 1882–date, c. 30 v.

Abstracts prior to 1881 exist.

CLERK OF THE JUVENILE COURT

Juvenile Court Record, 160 v.

This is a printed-form court record for the cases of delinquent and dependent children, truants, and pension cases (last since 1912). Cases are entered on records only if the court finds delinquency exists. The forms vary, covering the commitment of children to various institutions and their discharge from them.

Juvenile Court Files, 1899–date, c. 1000 f.b.

Permanent releases from institutions are filed separately in about 150 f.b.

Docket, 1899–date, 10 v. (1–10)

Minute Book, 1899–date, c. 70 v.

BOARD OF REVIEW

A separate board of review for Cook county was created in 1898. The records are in a small vault on the same floor with the office and in a larger one above. The board by statute retains one set of the quadrennial real estate assessment books.[1]

Real Estate Docket, 1901–date, 37 v.

The headings are: number, date, by whom, description, order.

Personal Property Docket, 1903–date, 40 v.

The headings are: number, date, by whom, where assessed, assessor's estimate, review estimate, date, and remarks.

Capital Stock Docket, 1911–date, 4 v.

The record was previously kept in personal property dockets.

Trade Record, 1906–date, 2 v.

The headings are: name, address, boards of assessors' and reviews' valuations for eight years, and remarks. Arranged by trades or kinds of manufacture.

Railroad Schedule Book, current, 1 v.

The volume contains railroad returns of property under schedules "C" and "D" (tools, etc., and real estate other than right of way).

[1] *Revised statutes, 1913*, ch. 120, sec. 326, p. 2084.

County Plats.

These are posted from the recorder's office.

Change Sheets, 1911–date, 8 v.

Earlier sheets, 1907–1911 are in vault in packages. This is a record of changes by board; it is used in revising assessors' books.

"Ward Books," 1901-date, c. 100 v. each year.

These are small volumes, containing records of changes in personal property assessments.

"Counter Books," 1900–date, 36 v. each year.

The volumes are a desk record of personal property assessments and are used in compiling collector's warrants for personal property.

Files of Complaints, 1905–date, 260 f.b.

The files are classified into complaints on personal property, real estate, and capital stock assessments.

Files of Inventories of Estates, 1907–date, 25 f.b.

CLERK OF THE BOARD OF ASSESSORS[1]

Personal Property Schedules.

The schedules are filed by taxpayers. For the current year they are in c. 350 f.b., in vault; those for the previous year are kept in packages in upper vault. Earlier schedules are destroyed yearly.

Memoranda Books, Personal Property, 1899, 284 v. for Chicago and an uncertain number for the county towns; 1900–date, c. 325–350 small v. each year.

There are two lines for each name, the upper one showing the amounts estimated by assessor, the lower one the amounts in the schedule filed. The assessors' figures are transferred to these from loose-leaf books turned in by district assessors.

Assessments of Buildings, c. 200 drawers in vault.

These are assessors' notes and estimates on buildings and clerks' estimates of assessment; some estimates are five or six years old.

Personal Property Assessment Lists, 1899–date, 42 v. a year.

The contents give name, number, street, cash value, assessed value, board of review value, and remarks.

Record of Certificates of Error issued by board of assessors and board of review, 1914, 1 v.

[1]The office has a small vault on the same floor with it, and a larger one on the floor above. Since 1898 assessment in Cook county has been directed by this board. (*Revised statutes, 1913*, ch. 120, sec. 297, p. 2077.) The board by statute retains one set of the quadrennial real estate assessment books.

Record of Exemptions granted church and school property, 1914, 1 v.

Record of Railroad Assessments, Schedules C and D, 1909–date, 2 v.

Record of Estates in Probate, 1899–date, 1 v. a year.

This is an index to new estates filed, showing amount of real and personal property and assessment made on it.

Record of Probate Estates, 1899–date, 1 v. each year.

The record includes settlements delayed from year to year, with abstracts of inventories and accounts filed.

Record of Capital Stock Assessment, 1911–date, 3 v.

CLERK OF THE PROBATE COURT

The records of this office are for the most part in two vaults, one containing book records, and one containing the files and a few books as well. Both are badly overcrowded. The stacks of filingboxes in the file vault have been piled up to a height of twelve or fifteen feet, and are inconvenient to get at even now. At one time a system was adopted of filing papers unfolded in correspondence files. This system seems to have been economical and much better for the papers than the usual method, and was abandoned only because cases of such drawers could not be piled up to as good advantage as the filingboxes of the ordinary type. The pleas for more room that the office has made deserve a more sympathetic hearing than they have apparently received. The record vault is worse crowded than the file vault; it is difficult to see where two years' further accumulation of books can be put. A few volumes are kept piled up in one corner of a "three and a half" vault. In an office so large as this it is very difficult to obtain exactly the numbers of the current volumes in the various series. The numbers given usually represent volumes in use at some time in the six months following October, 1913.

PROBATE COURT RECORDS

Probate Record, 1871–1878, 11 v.

All of these except v. 4 and 6 are in the file vault; the other two volumes are in the record vault.

Copy of Probate Record of the County Court, 1877–1878, 1 v.

Record of Proceedings in the Case of the Estate of Jeremiah Price, 1872, 1 v.

Probate Record, 1877–September, 1913, 355 v. (1–355), and current.

Memoranda of Record of Order, 1894–1903, 16 v.

This is a kind of minute book.

Minute Book, 1877–1886, 26 v. (A–Z); 1886–date, c. 300 v.

Record of Adjudication of Estates, 1883–1905, 5 v.

Attachment Record, 1901–1904, 1 v.

The form, two to a page, is for issue of summons to a delinquent administrator or executor to show cause why he should not be punished for contempt of court.

Citation Record, 1889–1896, 3 v. (5–7)

The volumes record citation of administrator or executor to show cause why he should not be removed. These and similar records are now kept in the regular court record.

Record of Rules to show cause, 1897–1904, 1 v. [?]

A printed form, three to a page, is used to show why executor or administrator should not be attached for contempt of court in failing to report, etc.

Probate Files, 1871–1891, in boxes numbered 1–5485½, 1198 f.b., also f.b. 5486–8768.

Large Filing Cases, nos. 8769–8977, also 91 filing cases containing estates nos. 1–7380; estates nos. 7402–17180 in 524 f.b.; in addition 20 large filing cases contain one estate each; current no. "19020."

DOCKETS AND FEE BOOKS

Probate Docket, 1873–1879, 6 v. (A–F)

Probate Docket, 1877–1908, 96 v.; 44 v. (97–140), in office.

Citation Docket, 1875–1877, 1 v.

There are four printed forms to a page. The headings are: estate, name of administrator or executor, in default of, when issued, returned, remarks.

Process Docket, 1878–1905, 6 v. (1–6); current volumes kept.

The contents indicate number, parties, nature of writ, when issued, when returnable, when filed.

Claim Docket, County Court, 1874–1877, 2 v. (B–C)

Claim Docket, 1878–1898, 15 v. (1–15); 1898–1909, 11 v. (16–26). in 3½ vault; 1910–1913, 3 v. (27–29), in office.

The headings indicate number, claimant, estate, amount filed, summons issued, and amount allowed.

Adjudication of Estates, 1871–1888, 1 v.

The headings are: number, name, estate, date of filing notice, day of adjudication, memorandum and orders, and remarks.

Index to Adjudications, 1888–1893, 1 v.

Minors' Docket, 1878–1879, 1 v. (A); 1878–1910, 16 v. (1–16)

Guardians' Docket of Application to Sell Real Estate, 1872–1877, 1 v.

"Minors' & Conservators' Docket," v. 18 current.

Conservators' Docket, 1872–date, 3 v.

Probate Fee Book, 1877–1910, 140 v. (1–140)

The fee books correspond in volume and page with the dockets.

Fee Book of Estates, 1871–1877, 6 v. (1–6)

Minors' Fee Book (guardians), 1871–1877, 1 v.; 1877–1907, 12 v. (1–12)

Conservators' Fee Book, 1877–1902, 2 v. (1–2)

RECORD OF WILLS, BONDS, AND LETTERS

Record of Wills, County Court, 1871–1877, 4 v. (1–4)

Record of Wills, 1878–date, 85 v. (1–85)

Contents: record of will, proof of will, and admission to probate.

Record of Foreign Wills, 1904–1912, 7 v. (1-7)

Record of Wills Refused Probate, 1913, 1 v. (1)

Record of Probate of Will, 1873–1897, 10 v. (1-10)

The contents show probate of will, order for issue of letters and appointment of appraisers. There are two forms to a page.

Record of Proof of Will, 1897–1913, 19 v. (10–28)

After v. 28 the form is one to a page.

Application for Proof of Will, 1897–1907, 4 v. (1–4)

The records contain petitions for proof of will, letters, and court order; these are now kept in record of proof of will.

Administrators' Bonds and Letters, 1871, 1 v. (31)

There is one printed form to a page.

Record of Grants of Administration, 1877–date, 30 v. (1–30)

Orders for issue of letters and appointment of appraisers are recorded.

Administrators' Bonds and Letters, 1877–1902, 62 v. (1–64), in 3½ vault (v. 19 and 27 not found); 1902–1913, 21 v. (65–85)

Executors' Bonds and Letters, 1877–1905, 27 v. (1–27), in 3½ vault; 1905–1913, 17 v. (28-44)

Conservators' Bonds and Letters, 1878–1892, 1 v. (1); 1893–date, 5 v. (2–6)

Guardians' Bonds and Letters, 1877–1913, 37 v. (1–37)

Record of Grants of Guardianship, 1877–1906, 12 v. (1–12)

The first nine volumes are in 3½ vault.

Record of Grant of Guardianship to Corporations, 1899–date, 1 v. [?]

There are two forms to a page.

Record of Grant to Corporations to Collect, 1899–date, 1 v. [?]

There are three forms to a page.

Record of Administrators' Bonds for Sale of Real Estate, 1885–date, 3 v.

Record of Bonds and Letters to Collect, 1877–date, 3 v.; De Bonis Non, 1878–date, 5 v.

Record of Bonds and Letters, Will Annexed, 1878–1911, 6 v.

Record of Bonds and Letters De Bonis Non, Will Annexed, 1883–date, 3 v.

DOCUMENTARY RECORD

"Documentary Record" is the title of a series of thirty volumes, the respective volumes of which bear the titles given in the first thirteen items. In each case the volume numeral is that of the series.

Guardians' Accounts, 1872–1878, 3 v. (5–7)

Guardians' Bonds and Letters, 1872–1877, 2 v. (8–9)

Administrators' Bonds and Letters, 1874–1877, 2 v. (10–11)

Executors' Bonds and Letters, 1875–1877, 1 v. (12)

Inventories and Appraisements, 1871–1877, 10 v. (13–22)

A part of the contents was restored after the fire.

Miscellaneous Accounts (of county court), 1882, 1 v. (23)

Grants of Administration, 1872–1877, 3 v. (24–26)

Guardians' Accounts, 1871–1874, 1884–1889, 2 v. (27–28)

Administrators' Accounts, 1874–1876, 2 v. (29–30)

Inventories and Appraisements, 1877–1878, 1 v. (1)

Miscellaneous Documentary Record, 1878–1902, 18 v. (1–18), in 3½ vault; 1902–1913, 11 v. (19–29)

In this record extensive use is now made of rubber stamps.

Miscellaneous Documentary Record, 1877–1878, 1 v.

Accounts, reports, etc. are recorded.

APPRAISEMENTS AND SALE BILLS

Conservators' Inventories, Accounts and Sales of Real Estate, 1877–1885, 1 v.

Record of Conservators' Reports, Accounts, and Inventories, 1883–1913, 25 v. (2–26)

Guardians' Inventories, 1878–date, 34 v. (1–34)

Record of Inventories and Appraisements, 1878–1886, 36 v. (2–37); 1886–1903, 153 v. (38–190)

Administrators' and Executors' Inventories and Appraisements, 1903–date, 117 v. (191–307)

Record of Sale Bills, 1877–date, 15 v. (1–15)

A volume, 1875–1877, is indicated in index to vault but was not found.

REPORTS

Record of Administrators' and Executors' Accounts, 1877–1894, 37 v. (1–37); 1908–1912, 52 v. (140–191)

Documentary Record of Guardians' Accounts, 1877–date, 88 v. (1–88)

Record of Widows' and Children's Awards, 1909–date, 4 v. (19–22)

Printed forms, two to a page, are used. The record is of the appraisers' allowance of a sum of money sufficient for support according to the station in life of the deceased. Volumes 1–18 are in 3½ vault; v. 7–9 missing.

SALE OF REAL ESTATE

Guardians' Reports, Sales of Real Estate, 1878–date, 7 v. (1–7)

Docket of Application to Sell Real Estate, 1872–1877, 1 v.

Decrees for Sale of Real Estate, 1875–1878, 1 v.; 1878–date, 51 v. (1–51)

Record of Administrators and Executors (reports of sales of real estate), 50 v. (1–50) to date.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Journal of Fees, 1878–1893, 26 v. (A–Z); 1893–1913, 74 v. (1–74)

Journal of Fees, 1902–1907, 2 v.

Journal Analysis, 1907–date, 7 v. (2–8)
Daily Register of Cash Receipts, 1906–1913, 15 v. (1–15)
Fees Remitted, 1897–1912, 2 v. (2–3)
Records of Certified Copies, 1906–1910, c. 50 v.

These are scrap books in which were pasted the carbons of certified copies issued. At present the carbon copy taken when the entry is made in the journal is used for the certified copy, and accordingly this series has been abandoned.

Record of Final Orders, 1894–1907, 16 v., same as above.
Cash Book, 1875–1905, 16 v. (A–P)
Stubs of Fee Bills, 1906–date, several hundred.
Copy of Abstract of Proceedings from R. R. Stevens' Report of County Court of Cook County, 1868–1871, 2 v.

In form an estate docket.

Register of Issue of Letters, 1902–1905, 3 v.
Letters not called for, 1902–date, 150 f.b.
County Court Probate Records, 1882, the following 1 v. each:

Docket, minors' docket, minors' fee book, estate fee book, administrators' bonds and letters, grants of administration, proof of wills, claim docket, probate index, grants of guardianship, executors' bonds and letters, inventory and appraisals.

INDEXES

Index to Deceased Estates, 1871–1908, *et seq.*, 6 v.
Index to Estates, 1892–1906, 1 v.; 1902–date, 4 v.
Indexes to Estates, 1901, 1902, 1905, 3 v.
Index to Unsettled Estates, boxes 2150–2700, 1 v.
Obsolete Index to Files, 1 v., in 3½ vault.
Conservators' Index, 1 v.; Conservators' Index volume for nos. 1094–6000, 1 v.
Index to Minors' Estates, c. 1871–date, 1 v.; 1890–1903.

CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT[1]

Common Law Record, 1871–1912, 286 v. (1–286)

A printed form is used for default and confession, current to v. 300.

Chancery Record, 1871–date, 659 v. (1–659)

One additional volume, 671, is a divorce record Printed form books are used for divorce, default, and foreclosure.

[1] The circuit and superior courts occupy rooms in the fourth floor of the county building. Their records are partly in the office and partly in vaults on the 3½ floor below, with fireproof equipment.

Record of Cases Stricken from Docket, 1901–1909, 8 or 10 volumes; 1909–1910, 1 v.

This was a printed-form court order, four to a page; the record has been discontinued.

Record of Certificates of good moral character of persons applying for admission to the bar, 1890–date, 5 v.

Plaintiff and Defendant Indexes, 1871–date, 120 v. (1–60; 2 v. for each number)

The headings are: number, plaintiff, defendant, kind of action, date commenced, record book and page, term disposed of, date of judgment, judgment docket, execution docket, number of execution, fee book and page, certificate of levy, certificate of sale, certificate of redemption, satisfaction or not.

Chancery Index, 1911–date, 3 v.

The headings are: plaintiff, defendant, general number, term number.

Index to Miscellaneous Orders (index to book records), 1871–1883, 1 v.

Index to Term Numbers, 1871, 1875, 1876–1877, 1878, 1884, 1 v. each.

Index to Dockets, 1880–1901, 15 v.

Judges' Minute Book, 1888–1910, c. 250 v.

There are large numbers of minute books for earlier dates. Current volumes are in office.

Circuit Court Files, numbers run to 327550 on one series, 7452 f.b.; nos. B1–B2750, new ser., 91 f.b.

Extra size cases are in drawers, indexed in a drawer index.

MECHANICS' LIEN RECORDS

Docket of Liens, 1887–date, 20 v. (1–20); 1872–1893, 1 v.

Mechanics' Liens, 1887–date, 123 f.b.

Mechanics' Lien Satisfactions, 1887–date, 20 f.b.

BURNT RECORD PROCEEDINGS

Burnt Record "Bill" Record, 1872–date, 4 v. (A–D)

Complete Record, Burnt Records, 1872–1909, 9 v. (A–I)

Bills at length and evidence taken before masters, etc., are recorded.

Burnt Record Files, 104 f.b.

The files contain memoranda, data, etc., relative to titles in question.

Burnt Record Docket, 1872–1900, 2 v. (1–2)

Burnt Record Decrees, 1901–date, 1 v., a kind of docket.

Burnt Record Docket, n.d., 1 v.

The docket contains simply title of case and number.

Burnt Record Register, 1896, 1 v. (6)

The headings are number and title of case, papers filed, by whom, when.

Tract Index to Burnt Record Docket, 1 v.

TORRENS SYSTEM

Court Proceedings on Registration of Title to Unincumbered Property, 1899–date, 5 v.

The volumes contain placite, recital of non-appearance, notice, and record of the title as vested in the applicant. A one-page printed form is used.

Registration of Title Subject to Liens, 1899–1909, 1 v.; 1904–date, 7 v.

In the former a one-page printed form, in the latter a two-page printed form is used. The content practically is the same as that given above.

Manuscript Record, proceedings to register title, 1899–1903, 1 v.; 1899–date, 3 v.

Rubber stamp is latterly used.

Record of Order of Reference Land Registration, 1904–1912, 1 v. (1); 1912–date, 1 v. (2)

Orders for reference to examiner of titles are recorded. There are six printed forms to a page.

Land Registration Cases, 1899–date, c. 200 f.b.

Land Registration Docket, 1899–date, 6 v. (1–6)

Attorneys, number, name of parties, date of filing bill description of land, orders, record, and page are listed.

SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS

Special Assessment Docket, 1896–1913, 1 v.

The headings are number, name of town, title of proceeding, petition filed, commissioners, date of filing assessment, certified to, call, order of court.

Special Assessment Record, 1897–date, 1 v. (167)

NATURALIZATION RECORDS

Naturalization Record, 1871–1906, 101 v. (2–102)

The form includes placite, petition representing birth and migration,

disclaimer of anarchy and polygamy, names and oaths of witnesses, oath of renunciation and allegiance, and order of court. There are volumes in the above series for adults, minors, soldiers, etc.

Naturalization Record, Declaration of Intention, 1874–1906, 15 v. (2–16)

Minors' Record, 1871–1875, 1 v.

Naturalization Record, 1904–1906, 16 v.

The contents include petition stating age and time of arrival in the United States, with renunciation of foreign allegiance and nobility, disclaimer of anarchy and polygamy, and oath to it; name of witness, oath and statement of witness, oath of renunciation and allegiance, and order.

Naturalization Papers, alphabetically filed, 112 f.b.

Naturalization Index, 1871–1912, 8 v.

DOCKETS, FEE BOOKS, ETC.

Fee Book, 1871–1913, 182 v. (1–182); current v. 184.

Loose-leaf printed form, three to a page, is used.

General Docket, 1871–1914, 88 v. (1–88)

Attorneys, number of case, names of parties, action, papers, writ, and fees are listed.

Judges' Docket (ante-fire cases), 1868–1871, 1 v.

Judges' Docket, Common Law, 1871, 1 v.; 1873–1874, 1 v.; 1874–1875, 1 v.; 1879, 4 v.; 1882, 3 v.; 1884, 1 v.; 1886, 5 v.; 1888, 1 v.

Clerks' Docket, Common Law, 1872, 1 v.; 1872–1909, v. 1–41; also v. 42–43.

Common Law Docket, 1871–1872, 2 v.; 1909–1912, 4 v. (1–4); 1911–1912, 2 v.; 1913, 1 v.

All the above clerks' dockets give the number, title of case, and remarks. The judges' dockets give the number, names of parties, and orders.

Common Law Docket Indexes, 1872, 1 v.; 1874, 1 v.; 1879, 2 v.; 1882, 1 v.; 1893–1894, 3 v.; 1895–1896, 1 v.; 1897–1898, 2 v.; 1899–1900, 1 v.; 1900–1901, 2 v.; 1901–1903, 1 v.; 1902–1903, 1 v.; 1903, 1 v.; 1903–1904, 1 v.; 1905, 1 v.; 1911–1913, 2 v.

Short Process Docket, 1893–1897, 1 v.

Parties, number, kind of writ, court, attorneys, fees, date returnable, on whom served, date, and bondsmen are recorded.

Judges' Docket, Chancery, 1871, 1 v.; 1880, 1 v.; 1882, 1 v.; 1884, 1 v.; 1886, 2 v.; 1892, 1 v.; 1892–1894, 3 v.; 1894–1896, 4 v.; 1896–1898, 1 v.; 1904, 1 v.

The contents show number, complainants' and defendants' solicitors, action, and order of court.

Docket of Chancery Cases pending before October 8, 1871, 1 v.

Chancery Docket Indexes, 1873–1875, 1 v.; 1875, 1 v.; 1876, 1 v.; 1877, 3 v.; 1880, 1 v.; 1881, 1 v.; 1882, 1 v.; 1884, 1 v.; 1888, 1 v.; 1888–1889, 1 v.; 1890–1891, 1 v.; 1892, 1 v.; 1893, 1 v.; 1894, 1 v.; 1895–1896, 1 v.; 1896–1897, 1 v.; 1897–1898, 1 v.; 1898–1899, 1 v.; 1900–1901, 2 v.; 1902–1903, 1 v.; 1905, 1 v.; 1907, 1 v.

Clerks' Chancery Docket, 1873–date, 59 v. (2–60)

Clerks' Chancery Register, 1885–date, 36 v.

Number, title of case, papers filed, by whom, when, papers withdrawn, when, by whom, when returned are registered. Volumes 14–36 omit all after "when."

Clerks' Law Register, 1871–date, 25 v. (1–25)

Assignment of Notices, short cause calendar, 1894–1904, 4 v.; 1904–date.

Date of filing, term number, plaintiff, defendant, date of calendar, and disposition are recorded. A little fuller form is used in the first series.

Condemnation Docket, 1881–date, 2 v.

Docket Index, cases nos. 16000–300000, c. 15 v.–date.

Contents: plaintiff, defendant, general number, term number.

Judgment Docket, 1871–date, 74 v. (1–74)

Execution Docket, 1871–1910, 37 v., current volume no. 39.

Assignment of Judgments, 1876–date, 27 f.b.

Satisfaction Pieces, 1871–date, 70 f.b.

Justice of the Peace Transcripts, 1871–1907, 86 v. (1–86)

A two-page printed form was used. The volume contained docket entries and summons, constables' returns, marginal fees from justice of the peace docket, execution and certificate of justice of the peace to transcript. Executions, etc. were pasted in additional spaces at times. The record has been discontinued.

Index to Justice of the Peace Transcripts, 1874–date, 5 v. each for plaintiff and defendant.

Justice of the Peace Transcripts, 1871–date, 147 f.b.

BOND RECORDS

Justice Court Bond Record, 1902–1906, 7 v. (1–7)

This is a record of bonds for appeals from justice of the peace.

Miscellaneous Bond Record, 1907–date, 1 v.

Receivers' Bond Record, 1902–date, 2 v. (1–2)
Supreme Court Appeal Bond, 1902–date, 1 v.
Appellate Court Bond Record, 1902–date, 4 v. (1–4)
Justice Court Bond Forcible Entry and Detainer, 1902–1907, 1 v.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORD

Certificates of Mailing Notices, 1878–date, 13 v.

The volume records title of suit, number, names of parties to whom sent, address used, and date of mailing.

Assignment of Minute Clerks to Judges, 1900–1906, 1 v.
Court Deposit Ledger, 1891–1892, 1 v.

This is a record of sums deposited with court.

Cash Receipts, 1912–1913, 2 v.

Loose-leaf forms are now used.

Cash Book, 1904–1906, 1 v.
Minute Book, Superior Court, 1894–1895, 1 v.

CLERK OF THE SUPERIOR COURT

Common Law Record, 1871–date, 283 v. (1–283)

Two to a page printed forms of defaults, confessions, and dismissals are used. They alternate with manuscript.

Chancery Record, 1871–1876, 13 v. (1–13)

Since 1876 separate volumes for decrees, orders, defaults and dismissals have been used. The highest current volume is no. 485. Printed forms are used for defaults (one-half page), dismissals (one-half page), divorces (one page) and foreclosures (two pages).

Record of Proceedings under the burnt record act, 1872, 1 v.
Superior Court Files, 10737–307720, 6643 f.b.; 636 drawers for oversized cases.
Drawer Index to Cases, nos. 1–485000, 4 v.

They indicate if a case is in a drawer, and if so the number of the drawer.

Plaintiff and Defendant Index, to 1909, 34 v. (1–34)

The headings are: number, plaintiff and defendant, action, term commenced, fee book, page, number of execution, and date of judgment. The current volumes are loose leaf.

Loose-Leaf Index, including same particulars, 1912–1914, 2 v. each for plaintiff and defendant.
Old Indexes, with plaintiff and defendant, case number, and term number, c. 15 v.

Current Term Index: Chancery, 1 v. (21); Common Law, 2 v. (20–21)

Register of Certificates of good moral character, 1882–1908, 2 v.

A printed form, two to a page, is used.

SPECIAL ASSESSMENT RECORDS

Record of General Orders, Special Assessments, 1909–1912, 3 v.

Special Assessment Docket, 1911, 1 v.

The headings are: case title, petition filed, roll copied, roll certified, roll filed, final order.

Orders Confirming Special Assessments, 1909–1910, 2 v.

A printed form; used for default.

Minute Books, 1871–1907, 314 v.; 1905–1911, 35 v.; Current Chancery Minutes, c. 25 v.

NATURALIZATION RECORDS

Naturalization Record, Declaration of Intention, 1872–1906, 15 v. (1–15)

A four-to-a-page, printed form is used.

Naturalization Record, 1871–1902, 72 v. (1–72); 1904–1907, 10 v. (1–10)

Minors' Record, 1904–1906, 13 v. (1–13)

Soldiers' Record, 1904–1906, 1 v.

Index to Naturalization of aliens and minors, 1871–date, 13 v.

Index to Declaration of Intention, 1871–1906, 3 v.

Vacation of Court Orders of Naturalization, 1908, 1 v.

The volume contains revocation of naturalization papers.

Naturalization Fees, 1911–date, 1 v.

DOCKETS AND FEE BOOKS

Fee Book, 1871–1906, 225 v. (1–225)

A three-to-a-page printed form is now used.

General Docket, 1871–date, 134 v. (1–134)

Attorneys, parties, action, when commenced and what writ, record page, date of judgment, amount of judgment, fee book and page, date and number of execution, etc. are listed. Six-to-two-page forms are used.

Common Law Docket, 1859–1871, 1 v.; 1877–1879, 1 v.; current volume no. 37; c. 58 v.

It is not easy to establish dates or sequence exactly, as a result of the practice of copying all unsettled cases out of the older dockets into the new ones. Number of case, title, kind of action, and remarks are listed.

Clerks' Docket, Common Law, 1876–1885, 1 v.; 1881–1886, 1 v.; 1869–1893, 1 v.

The contents give number, parties, attorney, action, and remarks.

Chancery Dockets, 1871–date, 37 v. (1–37)

The headings, including number, title, date and orders, run across two pages.

Clerks' Chancery Docket, 1862–1888, 1 v.; 1872–1885, 1 v.

Number of case, bill, and action are listed.

Bar Docket, 1874, 1 v.

The contents denote number, parties, kind of case, and action.

Docket of Proceedings, Burnt Record Act, 1872, 1 v.

The headings are attorneys, general number, petitioners, defendants, date filed, and description.

Land Registration Docket, 1899, 1 v.

Attorneys, number, parties, date filed, and description are listed.

Judgment Docket, 1872–1875, 6 v. (1–6); 1875–date, 81 v. (7–87)

Supplementary Judgment Docket ("Dismissals"), 1877–1879, 1 v.

Date, parties, action, book and page, amount, and remarks are given.

Execution Docket, 1871–date, 50 v. (1–49, extra v. "27")

Execution Order Book, 1885–1909, 16 v.; current also.

Ante-Fire Calendar, 1859–1871, 1 v.

Title, bill, and action are recorded.

Condemnation Calendar (improvements), n. d., 1 v. [?]

Number, title of case, and orders are listed.

Short Cause Calendar, 1893, 1 v.; 1894, 1 v.; 1895–1896, 1 v.

The headings are: date of filing, term number, plaintiff, defendant, date, calendar disposition.

Assignment of Notices for Short Cause Calendar, 1897–1905, 6 v.

The record is no longer kept.

Clerks' Register, 1891–date, 58 v. (1–58)

General number, title of case, papers filed, by whom, and when are the headings.

BOND RECORDS

Attachment Bonds, 1903–date, 2 v.

Injunction Bond Record, 1903–date, 2 v.

The bonds are given to pay any damages that may result from the issue of an injunction.

Ne Exeat Bond Record, 1906–date, 1 v.

Ne Exeat and Capias Bond Record, 1903–1913, 1 v.

Record of Bonds of Receiver, 1903–date, 3 v.

Record of Appeal Bonds from justice of the peace, 1903–date, 6 v. (1–6)

Record of bonds of Appeal to Appellate Court, 1903–1907, 1 v.; 1903–date, 4 v.

Record of Appeal Bonds, Forcible Entry and Detainer, 1903–date, 1 v.

Record of Appeal Bonds to Supreme Court, 1903–date, 1 v.

Miscellaneous Bond Record, 1903–date, 5 v.

Index to Bonds, 1873–1903, 2 v.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Cash Receipts Register, current.

Jury Docket, 1871–1875, 1 v.; 1878–1905, 7 v.

This is a register of jurors.

Record of Transcript Orders, 1883–1896, 1 v.; 1905–1906, 1 v.

Register of Receipts for papers taken, 1888, 1 v.

Office Time Book, 1891–1898, 2 v.

Ante-Fire Index to Cases, 1 v.

Tract Index to Burnt Records, 2 v.

CLERK OF THE CRIMINAL COURT[1]

COURT RECORDS AND MEMORANDA

Criminal Court Record, 1871–date, 171 v. (1–171)

Clerks' Journals, 1871–1913, c. 208 or 210 v.

The volumes are numbered 1–42, one numeral for each year; additional volumes for each year are numbered 42, A, B, C, D, E, F, AA, BB, CC, DD, EE, FF.

Court Minutes, 1873–1885, 12 v.; 1891–1913, c. 260 v.

The first series is a rough draft.

[1]The criminal court in Cook county is held by the circuit or superior judges, but has a clerk of its own. Constitution of 1870, art. vi, sec. 26; *Revised statutes, 1913*, ch. 37, secs. 83–88.

Quasi Criminal Record, 1871–1913, 18 v. (1–18)
The record contains bastardy, etc.

Grand Jury Order Record, 1895–1900, 1 v.; 1900–date, 1 v.
This is a record of court order for drawing the grand jury and the jury's appearance.

Miscellaneous Criminal Record (appointment of deputies, etc.), 1911–1913, 1 v.

PRINTED-FORM COURT RECORDS

Default Set Aside and Suit Dismissed, 1896–date, 3 v.

Default and Judgment Record, 1900–date, 2 v.

Plea Record, 1894–1913, 37 v. (1–37)
Entry of plea.

Nolle Prosequi Record, 1871–1913, 7 v. (1–7)

Habeas Corpus Record, 1899–date, 2 v.
Printed-form record of application and order fixing bond is used.

Bail Record, 1894–date, 32 v. (1–32)
Printed form, three to a page, showing order fixing bail.

Record of Individual Recognizance for release on probation, 1911–1913, 1 v.

Record of Release on Recognizance with a Surety, 1911–1913, 1 v.

Record of Court Order for Release on Probation, 1911–1913, 1 v.

Recognizance Record, 1871–1913, 36 v. (1–36)

Recognizance Record "Before Indictment," 1911–date, 1 v.

Forfeited Recognizance Record, 1872–1909, v. 1–8, *et seq.*

Reformatory Record, 1893–1913, 3 v.
The volume contains a record of commitment to reformatory for indefinite term.

Record of Orphan School Sentences, 1872–1893, 1 v.

Jail Record, 1872–date, 8 v. (1–8)
Orders of commitment to county jail.

Penitentiary Record: "Definite Term," 1871–date, 7 v. (1–7); "Indeterminate Sentence," 1895–date, 5 v. (1–5)

Record of Commitment to House of Correction, 1872–date, 11 v. (1–11)
Also v. 6, 1900–date, which is a record of "commitments with fines."

Record of Cases Stricken from Docket, 1871–date, 22 v. (1–22)

Appeal Dismissal Record, 1896–date, 3 v. (1–3)
Dismissal of appeals for want of prosecution is recorded.

Criminal Files, c. 1600 f.b.; cases for 1871, 4 f.b.

NATURALIZATION RECORDS

Naturalization Record, Declaration of Intention, 1872–1903, 6 v.
Final Certificate, 1871–1903, 18 v. (1–18)
Minors', 1872–1903, 11 v. (1–11)
Naturalization Files, Minors, 1871–1903, c. 30 f.b.; Final, c. 40 f.b.
Index to Final Naturalization Papers, 1871–1903, 1 v.
Index to Minors' and Soldiers' Records, 1871–1903, 1 v.

DOCKETS AND FEE BOOKS

Judges' Term Docket, 1871–1886, v. 1–A15, 18 v.
Judges' Criminal Docket, 1887–1892, 10 v. (A16–A21).
This record has been discontinued.

Clerks' Term Criminal Docket, 1871–1882, 13 v. (1–B11); and to date.
Clerks' dockets are assigned a yearly number for each year since 1871—43 being the current number; from two to three volumes a year have been needed since 1881 or 1882, and these have been numbered A, B, C, on the year number.

Judges' Quasi Criminal Term Docket, 1873–1890, 7 v. (1–7)
General Quasi Criminal Term Docket, 1872–1903, 5 v. (1–5)
Clerks' Quasi Criminal Term Docket, 1871–date, 14 v. (1–14)
Criminal Court Docket, 1871–1893, 7 v. (1–7)
Number, names of parties, and offense are the headings used.

General Habeas Corpus Docket, 1895–date, 2 v.
Number, title, and record of action are given.

Judgment Docket, 1872–date, 23 v. (1–23)
Headings: date and number, parties, record and page, amount, remarks.

Execution Docket, 1872–date, 2 v.

Record of Fines and Forfeiture, 1912–1913, 1 v.
Headings: date, number, defendant, fines, costs, forfeitures.

Court Call Docket, 1913–date, 1 v.

Registers of Bonds, 1887–1906, 6 v.

General Scire Facias Docket, 1896–date, 2 v.

Index to Bonds and Forfeitures, 1887–1903, 5 v.

Fee Book, 1871–1901, 54 v. (1–54)

After volume 54 the volumes are alternately "convictions," and "acquittals;" current acquittal is 88, current conviction, 61.

Quasi Criminal Fee Book, 1871–1880, 1 v.; 1891, 1 v.

Both volumes are manuscript.

Index to Municipal and Justice of the Peace Bonds, 1 v.
Index to Bonds after Indictments, 1 v.

MEMO BOOKS

"Memo Books" is the title given to a series of books that show in register form the disposition of cases. In general they have the headings: general number, name, charge (crime), amount, date, judge, journal, record book and page.

Cases Stricken Off, 1904–1913, 4 v. (1–4)
Nolle Prosequi, 1904–1913, 1 v.
Default Set Aside and Suit Dismissed, 1904–date, 1 v.
Recognizances, 1904–date, 7 v. (1–7)
Probation Record, Individual Recognizances, 1911–date, 1 v.
Reference to Probation Officers, 1911–date, 1 v.
Forfeited Recognizances, 1904–1911, 1 v.
Bail, 1904–date, 8 v. (1–8)
Default and Judgment, 1904–1913, 1 v.
Judgments, 1904–date, 4 v. (1–4)
Pleas, 1904–1913, 5 v. (1–5)
Recognizance, Money Clause, 1911–date, 1 v.
Order Granting Probation, 1911–date, 1 v.
Memo Books (rough record), 1879–1887, 3 v.; 1890–1902, 5 v.
Recognizances, 1898–1901, 1 v. (2); 1901–1903, 1 v. (1)
Mittimus Receipt Book, 1895–1899, 1 v.; 1906–date, 1 v.

The contents are number, name, charge, term, institution, date, judge, record book and page, remarks.

INDICTMENTS, JURY RECORDS, ETC.

Indictment Record, 1873–date, 201 v. (1–201)
Grand Jury True Bill Record, 1911–1913, 20 small v.
Record of No True Bills, 1896–date, 2 v.
"No Bills," 1871–1912, 136 f.b.

Index to No True Bills, 1896–1907, 1 v.

Name, number, charge, term and year are the items listed.

Check Roll of Petit Jury, 1871–1891, 9 v.

Jury Check List, 1891–1895, 2 v.

Jury Docket (list of jury), 1894–1899, 2 v.

Jury Pay Roll, 1898–1906, 5 v. (A–E)

Jurors' Time Record, 1912–1914, 5 v.

Index to Recorded Indictments, 1 v.

Number of indictment, and number of book and page are given. There are few entries.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Defendants' Quasi Criminal Index, 3 v. (1–3)

MISCELLANEOUS PAPERS

Jail Discharges, 1897–date, 10 f.b.

Receipts for Forfeited Bonds, 1898–1902, 4 f.b.

Jury Venires, 1872–date, 20 f.b.

Jurors' Receipts, 1902–1906, 20 f.b.

Bastardy and Abandonment Receipts, 4 f.b. current; 1902–1908, 4 f.b.

Penitentiary and Reformatory Receipts (for prisoners), 1892–date, 1 f.b. each.

Semiannual Reports, 1902–date, 1 f.b.

Ledger of Bastardy Payments to Clerk and by Clerk to Relatrix, 1898–1910, 1 v.

Daily Register of Cash Receipts, 1906–1914, 1 v.

Monthly Summaries, Cash Receipts, 1906–date, 1 v.

Cash Book, 1898–1902, 1 v.

Register of Cash Receipts, 1906–1913, 11 v.

Common Law Docket, Superior Court, 1885–1886, 1 v.

Convicts' Index, 1871–date, 7 v. (1–7)

The contents show number, name, offense, sentenced to, for term of, amount of fine, plea, verdict, term of court, date of sentence, by whom.

REGISTRAR AND RECORDER

The recorder's office occupies one side of the ground floor of the county building, Chicago. Four vaults are in use—a small one on the main floor used for torrens records; a larger one used

for tract indexes, and other indexes; a large vault downstairs where the record volumes proper are kept open to the public; and a smaller vault fenced off from it where certain abstract records are kept. It will be most convenient to list the records in these vaults separately. In recording documents printed forms are used for releases, trust deeds, tax deeds, statutory mortgages, corporations. Chattels are no longer run in separate volumes. The department chiefs believe it is not feasible to use more printed forms; they point out that a hundred typist recorders are employed, and that each girl has to have two books, one to write in while the other is being compared. In addition extra books must be kept on which the copyists may be employed when their own books are being consulted for documents they contain. Clearly under these circumstances confusion would result from the use of too many printed forms.

MAIN VAULT

Original Entry Book, 1905–1912, 81 v. (308–388)

Earlier volumes said to be in the criminal court building.

Deed, Mortgage, etc. Record, v. 1–12751.

Some volumes numbered in this series are still blank.

Plat Books, 131 v.

These are records of subdivision plats.

Record of United States Surveys, Cook County, 1 v.

Plats and Subdivisions registered under torrens system, 2 v.

Maps of County, 8 v.

Corporation Record, 1872–date, 199 v. (1–199)

The record is manuscript till 1897; thenceforth manuscript alternates with printed form. A two-page form is used, including secretary of state's certificate of organization, petition of incorporators, certificate of stock subscription, election of officers, names of directors, and affidavits.

Record of Railroad Articles of Incorporation, 1872–1905, 3 v.

Record of Bonds, town collectors, 1872–1907, 2 v.

Grantor and Grantee Index, 1871–date, 311 v. each for grantor and grantee.

Recent volumes are loose leaf. The headings are grantor, grantee, instrument, date, consideration, book, page, document number, description, date filed.

Index to Maps, 12 v.

Index to Chattel Mortgages, 1871–date, 167 v.
Index to Transcripts of Judgments, municipal court, 1907–1913, 1 v.
Index to Document Numbers, v. 1–59, nos. c. 14611–c. 5300000.
"Paging Books," 58 v. (3–55, also 1, 2; 3 v. nos. 1, 2, 4)
Record of Abstracts of Title, 1873–1898, 103 v. (1–103)
Original Delivery Book, 1885–1905, 34 v. (1–34)
Register of Cash Receipts, 1906–1913, 14 v.
Cash Books, 1A–1F, 1900–1906, 6 v.

Tract Index and Abstract Vault

DOCKET TRANSCRIPTS

United States District Court Judgment and Execution Docket (transcript), 1871–1911, 3 v.; Equity, 1 v. (in office)
United States Criminal Court Docket (transcript), 1876–date, 1 v.
Transcript of Judgment and Execution Docket, United States Circuit Court, 1872–1906, v. 1–6; v. 7–8 in office.
United States District Court Bankruptcies (transcripts), 1898–1910, v. 1–5; v. 6 and 7 in office.
Appellate Court Judgment and Execution Docket (transcript), 1878–1889, 1 v.; 1890–1907, v. 2–4; v. 5–6 in office.
Superior Court, Record of ante-fire cases, 1859–1870, 1 v.; 1871–1902, 1 v. (½)
Superior Court Judgment and Execution Docket (transcript), 1871–1906, v. 1–66; v. 67–85 in office.
Circuit Court Judgment and Execution Docket (transcript), 1871–1903, v. ½, 1–76; v. 77–102 in office.
Criminal Court Judgment and Execution Docket (transcript), 1872–date, 2 v.
Quasi Criminal Court Docket, 1905–date, 1 v.
The contents show names of parties, date of filing, remarks.
County Court Judgment Docket (transcript), 1873–1910, 7 v.; v. 8–9 in office.
Municipal Court Judgment and Execution Docket (transcript), 1906–date, 3 v. (1–3)
Docket Register of Justice of the Peace Transcripts, 1872–1892, 2 v.

Special Assessment Docket: Superior Court, 1 v.; County Court, Chicago, 3 v.; County Towns, 2 v.

"Burnt Record Docket,"[1] 1872–date, 3 v. (1–3)

Docket of Building Liens, 1887–date, 5 v. (1–5)

Index to Judgments, 1871–1906, 37 v. by years.

Index to Judgments, 23 v., 1 v. for each letter and 1 v. "corporation."

Index to Judgments (current), 17 loose-leaf v.

A new system rather phonetic than alphabetical is used.

Divorce Index, 1906–1912, 3 v.; 1912, 1 v. in office.

Insanity Index, 1886–date, 2 v.

Index to Inheritance Tax, 1906–date, 1 v.

Index to Adoptions, 3 v.

Municipal Court Transcripts, Index, v. 1–3 current in office.

Index to Corporation Records, 9 v.

Index to Powers of Attorney Recorded, 1 v.

Index to Cemetery Records, 2 v.

Miscellaneous Index, 1 v.

Tracts Index (tract books), v. 1–637, divided into about 750 v.

Index to Records, 12th to 120th sts., Chicago, 5 v.

Tax Sales, 1869–1873, 7 v.

This is a register of sales arranged by survey.

Tract Index to Tax Sales, 1874–1887, 1 v.

Current Index to Tax Sales and Special Assessments.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Maps of Cook County, 11 v.

Register of Torrens Registrations, 1899–date, 4 v. (1–4)[2]

[1] Records made in accord with the burnt record act of 1872. (*Revised statutes, 1913*, ch. 116, pp. 2002 *et seq.*) This act provided for the restoring of burned county records by the recording of certified copies of deeds, etc., recorded in other counties or courts, federal or state, for the purchase of abstracts made from destroyed records before their destruction, and where none of these availed, for the reëstablishment of title by chancery proceedings in the courts.

[2] Torrens system. Application for registration is made to a court with chancery jurisdiction (in practice this is usually done through the recorder in his rôle of registrar), and is registered in a "Land Registration Docket." The application is next referred to an examiner of title appointed by the registrar and the application itself is advertised. The court may then decree a full or encumbered title to the applicant. The registrar then makes out a certificate of title and records it in a "Register of Titles," one leaf to each

Letter Press Copies of abstracts issued, 1895–1911, v. 267–466.

Record of Ante-Fire Abstracts, 5 v.

Owners' Receipts for Torrens Certificates of Title, 1899–1905, 11 v.

Register of Fees, torrens system, 1912–date, v. 4.

"Irregular Indexes" (to documents with no immediate effect on real estate titles, but with the potentiality of affecting them), 8 v., in office.

"Original Entry Book," 1871–date, 387 v. (1–387)

Since 1893 these are bound volumes of the daily sheets on which are typed off notations of the essential parts of instruments filed for record. From these the tract books are made up. A duplicate set is kept in the criminal court building.

Torrens Registration Record, 1899–1911, 3 v. (1–3)

The record is same as above, but for instruments affecting land under the torrens system.

Index to Tax Sales, 1890–1899, 6 v.

These are sectional indexes simply listing lands sold.

Indexes to Subdivisions (arranged by names), 2 v.

Abstract Order Books, 1875–1903, 12 v. (1–12)

A register of orders for abstracts.

Indexes to the above, 4 v.

Abstract Entry Books, 1873–1880, 2 v.

Number of document, date, received from, made and by whom described, and when delivered are the headings.

Letter Press Copies of Abstracts, 1875 *et seq.* v. 1–266.

Old Minutes of Judgments, etc., 1907 *et seq.*, c. 200 small v.

Pencil Tax Searches, 1910–date, nos. 1–19000, 40 large pasteboard boxes.

Uncalled for Documents.

TORRENS DEPARTMENT

"Record of Certificates of Title Issued," 68 v. (1–68)

Printed form is used; spaces are left for showing future instruments affecting the title.

Original Entry Book, torrens system, 1899–date, 3 v. (1–3)

certificate, with space for annotations of liens such as judgments, mechanics' liens, etc. A transfer can only be made by the annulment of the old certificate and the entry of a new one. *Revised statutes, 1913*, ch. 30, sec. 44 ff.

The contents show the grantor, grantee, date of instrument, date of filing, fee, instrument, description of land. Documents affecting torrens system land are numbered in an independent series and not in the general recorders' series.

Tract Index to Torrens Registers of Title, 27 v.

The contents indicate certificate, number and date, register book and page, owners' names, description.

Card Index (to name, age, address, conjugal condition, etc., of persons in whose name property is registered).

The information is acknowledged before a notary public and is used as a means of identification. "Cases"—abstracts showing title to property registered under the system—are kept on file, to the number of about 7000. Owing to subdivisions there are about 30,000 pieces of land now registered under it.

ADAMS COUNTY[1]

Adams county was set off from Pike in 1825; the county seat is Quincy. The courthouse is apparently fireproof. While no vaults are used, the records are kept in steel filing cases—the book records on shelves with steel curtains, and the files in steel filingboxes that can be locked. The county has both a circuit clerk and a recorder.

County Clerk

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' AND SUPERVISORS' RECORDS

County Commissioners' Court Record, July, 1825–September, 1838, 1 v., labeled "Adams County Records"; 1838–1849, 1 v.

Record of Board of Supervisors, 1849–date, 9 v. (A–I)

Supervisors' Papers, 1850–date, 208 f.b.

Road Reports and Plat Record, 1826–1871, 1 v.

The contents include reports of surveys, road viewers' reports, plats, etc.

Jury List, 1872–date, 2 v.

COUNTY COURT RECORDS

Common Law Record, 1872–date, 3 v. (A–C); Index, 1 v.

Criminal Record, 1872–date, 4 v. (A–D); Index, 1 v.

County Court Files (common law and criminal), 1872–date, 66 f.b.

Voluntary Assignment Record, 1877–1900, 4 v.

Record of Melrose Drainage District, 1909–date, 1 v.

Special Assessment Record, 1893–date, 3 v.

Insane and Conservators' Record, 1883–1904, 2 v.

Insanity Record, 1904–date, 1 v.

County Court Fee Book, 1872–date: Common Law, 3 v.; Criminal, 3 v.

[1] Examined June–July, 1912.

NATURALIZATION RECORDS

Declaration of Intention, 1872–1906, 3 v.

Final Certificates of Naturalization, 1872–1906, 7 v.

Minors' Record of Naturalization, 1872–1906, 2 v.

Discharged Soldiers' Certificates of Naturalization, 1888–1904, 1 v.

TAXATION RECORDS

Assessment and Statement of Taxes, 1859–date, 10 f.b.

Original Land Entry Book, c. 1815–1860, 1 v.

Assessors' Books, 1844 (real estate); 1850–date.

Collectors' Books, 1850–date.

Tax Judgment Record, 1823–1879, 5 v.

Tax Sale and Redemption Record, 1822–1879, 8 v.

Record of Forfeited Lands, 1871–1879, 1 v.

Tax Judgment, Sale, Redemption, and Forfeiture Record, 1880–date, 9 v.

Record of Affidavits for Tax Deeds, 1849–date, 4 v.

RECORDS OF VITAL STATISTICS

Record of Marriages, March, 1834–December, 1864, 1 v.

The contents give names of parties, when and by whom married.

Record of Marriages, January, 1865–December, 1878, 1 v.

The contents are the same as in the preceding volume.

Register of Marriages, 1878–date, 8 v.

The board of health form is used.

Marriage Licenses, 1825–date, 96 f.b.

Register of Births, 1877–1887, 4 v. (1–4); 1887–1903, 26 v. (A–Z); 1903–date, 3 v. (1–3)

In the series for 1887–1903, both in the register of births and in the register of deaths, there is one volume for each letter. As a consequence most of the space is wasted in both records.

Birth Reports, 1878–date, 44 f.b.

Register of Deaths, 1877–1887, 3 v. (1–3); 1887–1903, 26 v. (A–Z); 1903–date, 3 v. (1–3)

Death Reports, 1878–date, 28 f.b.

Record of Physicians' and Dentists' Certificates, 1877–date, 2 v.

Register of Physicians and Accoucheurs, 1877–date, 1 v. (1)
Architects' License Record, 1898–date, 1 v.
Statistics of Production, 1854, 1 f.b. (449)

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Abstract of Votes, 1857–date, 3 f.b. (455, 1097, 1226)
Record of Assessors' Bonds, 1899–date, 2 v.
Record of Bonds, December, 1827–November, 1849, 2 v.
Register of Officers, 1835–date, 3 v.
Record of Marks and Brands, 1825–1895, 1 v.
Militia Roll Record, 1861–1862, 1 v.
School Commissioners' Report Record, 1832–1840, 1 v.
This is a record of sale of school lands.

County Clerk—Probate

PROBATE COURT RECORDS[1]

"Order Book, A," 1842–1847, 1 v.
This is an eight by thirteen inch leather-bound volume without an index. It is a record of letters of administration, guardianship, sale bills, etc.

Probate Record, 1847–1849, 1 v. (2), not indexed.[2]
Probate Court Record, 1856–date, 45 v.
Index to Probate Records, 1825–date, 4 v.
The index lists name of estate, and of executor or administrator; date of letters, page reference to will, bond, inventory, sale, claim, order, and report records; also number of filingbox.

Guardians' Index, 1827–date, 3 v.
The contents are name of ward and guardian; date of letters; reference to bond, report, and other probate records, giving page and volume; also number of filingbox.

Probate Files, 1825–date, 393 f.b.
Probate Judgment Docket, 1859–date, 10 v. (A–J)
Probate Fee Book, 1850–date, 20 v. (1–20)

RECORDS OF WILLS, BONDS, AND LETTERS

Record of Wills, 1831–1840, 1 v., not indexed; April, 1837–date, 10 v. (1–10)

[1]For records prior to 1842 see "Letters of Administration" Record, *post*, 42.
[2]The fact whether or not a volume is indexed is indicated only with the early records described in detail.

Record of Letters and Bonds, 1850–1876, 4 v. (4–7)

Letters of Administration, September, 1826–November, 1849, 4 v. (A–D), not indexed.

Volume A (1826–1841) contains also wills, sale bills, claims, reports, settlements, etc.

Administrators' Bonds and Letters, 1857–date, 12 v.

Executors' Bonds and Letters, 1883–date, 9 v.

Conservators' Record, 1898–date, 1 v.

Guardians' Bonds and Letters, 1858–date, 7 v. (1–7)

Miscellaneous Bonds and Letters, 1882–date, 1 v.

INVENTORIES, APPRAISEMENTS, AND SALE BILLS

Inventory, Appraisement, and Sale Record, 1847–1872, 13 v. (C, D, 1–11)

Appraisement Record, 1871–date, 9 v. (12–20)

Sale Record, 1871–date, 4 v. (12–15)

Inventory Record, 1871–date, 18 v. (12–30)

Guardians' and Conservators' Inventory Record, 1896–date, 2 v. (1–2)

Report Record, 1872–date, 19 v.

Guardians' Report Record, 1900–date, 3 v.

Widows' Relinquishment and Selection Record, 1883–date, 3 v.

County Court Record: Real Estate, 1849–1856, 1 v.

This is a record of all orders and decrees on petitions for sale of real estate with returns of sales.

Record of Proceedings on Petitions to Sell Real Estate to Pay Debts, 1876–date, 16 v.

Clerk of the Circuit Court

CIRCUIT COURT RECORDS

Circuit Court Record: Common Law, Chancery and Criminal, 1825–1837, 3 v. (A–C); Chancery, 1837–date, 50 v. (1–50); Common Law and Criminal, 1837–1852, 6 v. (D–F, 1–3); Common Law, 1853–date, 25 v. (4–28); Criminal, 1853–date, 16 v. (1–16)

Complete Record, Chancery, 1841–1899, 5 v. (1–5)

This is a complete record of proceedings in cases affecting title to land.

Circuit Court Files, 1825–date: Chancery, 184 f.b.; Common Law, 207 f.b.; Criminal, 89 f.b.

The cases of filingboxes are kept locked.

Naturalization Record[1]: Declaration of Intention, 1840–1899, 6 v. (D^1–D^6); Final Certificate, 1840–1884, 7 v. (N^1–N^7); Discharged Soldiers' Certificates, 1864–1875, 1 v. (M^8); Minors' Certificates, 1854–1900, 3 v. (M^1–M^3)

Index to Court Records, 1858–date: Common Law, 3 v. each for plaintiff and defendant; Criminal, 1 v. each for plaintiff and defendant; Chancery, 2 v. each for plaintiff and defendant.

DOCKETS AND FEE BOOKS

Judges' Docket, 1834–date, 108 v., on shelves in vault.

Judgment Docket, 1827–1855, 4 v. (1–4); 1855–date, 32 v.

There are 2 v. for the letters B, C, H, M, S, and W; and 1 v. for each of the remaining letters of the alphabet.

Execution Docket, 1826–date, 8 v. (1–8)

Executions, 1826–date, 105 f.b.

Record of Claims for Liens (mechanics' lien docket), 1888–date, 1 v.

Fee Books, 1833–date, 63 v.

Justice of the Peace Transcript Record, 1847–date, 6 v. (1–6)

Recorder

DEED AND MORTGAGE RECORDS

Entry Book, 1825–date, 31 v.

Deed Records (transcribed from Madison county), 1818–1825, 5 v. (1–5)

Deed Records, 1825–date, 236 v. (A–Z, 1–210)

Cemetery Deed Record, 1861–date, 5 v. (1–5); Index, 1 v.

Mortgage Record, 1836–date, 146 v. (A–Z, 1–120)

Plat Book, 1850–date, 2 v. (1–2)

General Index, 1818–date, 21 v. each for grantor and grantee.

Index to Marginal Releases and Assignments, 1905–date, 1 v. (1)

Chattel Mortgage Record, 1836–date, 45 v. (1–45)

[1] Naturalization records later than 1906, on account of their flavor of federal supervision, will not be listed.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Record of Certificates of Levy, Sale, and Redemption (masters and sheriffs), 1841–date, 6 v. (A–F)

Record of Certificates of Election of Trustees, 1853–date, 1 v. (1)

Record of Corporations, 1873–date, 4 v. (1–4)

The volumes record the charter or agreement, the purpose and name of organization, etc.

Record of Powers of Attorney, 1855–date, 3 v. (1–3)

Collectors' Bond Record, 1850–date, 4 v. (1–4)

Miscellaneous Record, 1893–date, 2 v. (1–2)

ALEXANDER COUNTY[1]

Alexander county was organized in 1819 from territory attached to Union county; the county seat is Cairo. The courthouse is of brick with wooden interior furnishings and clearly not fireproof However, it is located in a square and has good vaults eight by thirty feet and ten feet high with steel shutters to the windows. The fittings are of wood and the old type of shelving used so that the books stand on end. Papers are filed in tin boxes set in wooden pigeonholes.

County Clerk

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' AND SUPERVISORS' RECORDS

County Commissioners' Court Record, June, 1819–May, 1853, 2 v. (1–2), record size.

County Court Record, December, 1861–December, 1873, 1 v. (3) and part of v. 4 (to p. 274)

County Commissioners' Court Record, March, 1874–date, 4 v. (v. 4, pp. 274 *et seq.*, and nos. 5–7)

County Commissioners' Papers, 1819–date, 90 f.b.

Miscellaneous Road Papers, 1848–1875, 3 f.b.

These include petitions, surveys, reports of supervisors, etc.

Grocery License Register, 1865–1908, 1 v.

The register gives "grocer's" name, date of license, for what period, rate of license, and location of "grocery."

COUNTY COURT RECORDS

County Court Record, 1872–date, 7 v. (A–G)

Index to Court Records, 1872–date, 1 v. each for plaintiff and defendant.

County Court Files: Common Law, 1872–date, 28 f.b.; Criminal, 1872–date, 32 f.b.; Insanity, 1902–date, 4 f.b.

These are filed alphabetically.

City of Cairo, Special Assessments, 1882–date, 12 f.b.

The contents are petitions and assessment rolls.

[1] Examined April, 1912.

Drainage Papers, 1897–date, 8 f.b.

The papers concern Cairo, Richland, Cape Giradeau, North Alexander County, and Clear Creek drainage districts. They are assessment rolls, condemnation suits, reports of drainage commissioners, etc.

Insanity Record, 1893–1908, 1 v. (A)

The record includes both jury and commission trials.

Judges' Docket, 1872–date, 6 v. (A–F)

Insanity Docket, 1893–date, 1 v. (A)

Fee Book (common law and criminal), 1872–date, 15 v. (A–O)

Insanity Fee Book, 1894–1904, 1 v. (A)

Jail Register, 1894–1909, 1 v. (B)

TAXATION RECORDS

"Taxable Land," c. 1837, 1 v., leather bound.

The volume lists the name of the owner of the land, date of entry, location and value of land.

Road Plat Book, 1857–1858, 1 v.

This is a cloth-bound volume, 16 x 18 inches, not labeled.

School District Plat Book, 1868, 1 v.

The volume is 16 x 18 inches, cloth bound and unlabeled.

Railroad Tax Schedules, 1892–date, 3 f.b.

Assessors' Books and Collectors' Books, 1833–1850.

These are paper folios, tied up with judgment and sale records of same date and labeled.

Assessors' Books, 1851–date.

Collectors' Books, 1851–date.

Tax Judgment Record, 1842–1879, 10 v.

Tax Sale Record, 1850–1879, 9 v.

Tax Judgment, Sale, Redemption, and Forfeiture Record, 1880–date, 30 v. (10–39)

Record of Proofs [affidavits] for Tax Deeds, 1880–1905, 2 v. (A–B)

Tract Index to Tax Sales: Town Lots (Cairo), 1858–date, 1 v.; Town Lots (other than above), 1858–date, 1 v.; Lands, 1 v.

RECORDS OF VITAL STATISTICS

"Marriage Record, 1819–1848," 1 v.

This is a paper-back volume, 8 x 13 inches in size, of about one hundred pages, not indexed. It records licenses issued, and certificates of marriage.

Marriage Record, December, 1846–October, 1856, 1 v.

The volume is 8 x 13 inches in size, labeled, "Records," and without an index. It contains a record of licenses issued from December, 1846–October, 1856, giving names and date (pp. 1–67), record of certificates of marriage, December, 1846–July, 1856 (pp. 151–219), and December, 1857–January, 1859 (pp. 241–261).

Marriage Record, January, 1859–date, 14 v. (B–O)

Copy of license and certificate of marriage are recorded. The license gives the names of parties and date of issue, and after September, 1874 (v. D, p. 119), ages of parties; after March, 1883 (v. F), their place of residence. The volumes are indexed by males. The county keeps no index to birth, death, or marriage records, and no board of health marriage record.

Record of Applications for Marriage License, 1898–date, v. A–date.

Marriage Licenses, 1825–date, 39 f.b.

Register of Births, 1878–date, 2 v. (1–2)

Register of Deaths, 1878–date, 2 v. (1–2)

Birth Reports, 1902–date, 4 f.b.

Death Reports, 1903–date, 4 f.b.

"Census Enumeration of the Inhabitants of the County of Alexander, State of Illinois, for the year 1840 A.D."

This is a paper folio of eighteen pages laid inside labeled "Militia Roll Record A." The entries include: names of heads of families; number of males and females between ten and twenty years, twenty and thirty years, etc.; and number of males subject to military duty,

Census Schedules, Alexander County, 1870.

Physicians' (dentists') and Accoucheurs' Register and Record, 1877–date, 1 v. (1)

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Poll Books, 1868–date.

They are piled on top of shelves in vault. The earlier ones are said to have been destroyed sometime ago.

Register of Commissions, 1861–date, 1 v.

The register gives names, date of election, expiration of term, date of bond, and names of sureties for all county officers.

Militia Roll Record, 1861–1862, 1 v. (A)

Record of Marks and Brands, 1858–1896, 1 v.

Estray Record, 1863–1883, 1 v.

Coroners' Record, 1870–date, 2 v. (A–B)
Coroners' Inquests, 1843–1898, 4 f.b.

County Clerk—Probate

PROBATE COURT RECORDS

"County Court Record of Estates, including Wills, etc., 1819–1835, Book A," 1 v.

The volume contains applications, letters, wills, inventories, sale bills, records of settlements, claims probated, bonds of administrators, guardians, etc.; 172 pages 8 x 13 inches in size.

Probate Court Record, 1833–1837, 1 v. (220 p., 8 x 13 inches); 1837–1841, 1 v. (475 p., 8 x 13 inches); 1842–February, 1844, 1 v. (F, 295 p., 10 x 15 inches); January, 1847–December, 1850, 1 v. (G)

Probate Order Book, December, 1857–date, 16 v. (A–P)

The volumes record proceedings and orders of court, petitions for letters of administration, claims filed and allowed, reports, petitions to sell real estate, etc.

Proof of Publication of Notice to Claimants, 1866–date, 1 v. (A)

Probate Files, 1819–date: Estates, 120 f.b.; Guardianship, 50 f.b.

These are filed alphabetically.

DOCKETS AND FEE BOOKS

Probate Judges' Docket, 1868–date, v. C–date.

Probate Estate Docket, 1855–1857, 1 v.

The entries include: name of estate, of administrator, and of widow and heirs; date of letters of administration; amount and date of bond; amount and date of inventory and sale bills. The volume contains 300 p., but all after p. 27 are blank.

Guardians' Docket, 1864–1868, 1 v.

The contents include: name of estate and of guardian; date of letters; date and amount of bond; names and ages of minors; date and amount of inventory; remarks. Only 14 of the 210 p. in the volume have been used.

Probate Fee Book, 1860–date, 28 v. (A–Z, 1–2)

Guardians' Fee Book, 1902–date, 2 v. (1–2)

RECORDS OF WILLS, BONDS, AND LETTERS

Record of Wills, February, 1850–date, 5 v. (A–E)

[Record of] Administrators' Petitions, Bonds, Oaths, and Letters, 1894–date, 2 v. (C–D)

[Record of] Administrators' Bonds, Oaths, and Letters, 1879–1904, 1 v. (B)

Administrators' Petition Record, 1865–1908, 1 v. (A)

Executors' Petition Record, 1865–1878, 1 v. (A)

Copies of petitions for letters.

Conservators' Record, 1892–date, 1 v. (A)

Record of Guardians' Petitions, 1865–date, 1 v. (A)

Petitions for appointment of guardians.

Record of Guardians' Bonds and Letters, 1842–1851, 1 v.; 1858–date, 3 v. (A–C)

The first volume is 8 x 13 inches, and labeled "Guardians' Record."

INVENTORIES, APPRAISEMENTS, AND SALE BILLS

[Record of] Inventory, Appraisement and Sale Bills, 1842, 1 v. (8 x 13 inches)

Inventory, Appraisement and Sale Record, 1859–1879, 4 v. (A–D)

Inventory Record, 1879–date, 3 v. (F–H)

Guardians' Inventory Record, 1898–date, 1 v. (1)

Appraisement Record, 1879–date, 3 v. (A–C)

Sale Record, 1879–date, 6 v. (A–F)

REPORT RECORDS

Administrators' and Executors' Report Record, 1872–date, 5 v. (A–E)

Reports are written up in blank volumes.

Guardians' Report Record, 1872–date, 4 v. (A–D)

These are written up in blank record books.

Clerk of the Circuit Court

CIRCUIT COURT RECORDS

Circuit Court Order Book, 1842–1869, 5 v. (B–F)

Circuit Court Record, 1869–date, 28 v.

Since 1869 common law, chancery, and criminal records are kept in separate volumes.

Confession Record, 1860–1888, 1 v. (A)

It contains 283 p., all blank after p. 160.

Index to Court Records, 1858–date, 3 v. each for plaintiff and defendant.

Circuit Court Files, 1821–date, 435 f.b.

Up to 1865 common law, chancery, and criminal cases were filed together; since then they have been filed separately.

NATURALIZATION RECORDS

Declarations of Intention, 1865–1896, 1 v. (A)
Certificates of Naturalization, 1865–1898, 1 v. (A)
Petition and Certificate of Naturalization (soldiers and minors), 1865–1890, 1 v.

DOCKETS AND FEE BOOKS

Court Docket, 1849–1866, 6 v.
Judges' Docket, 1867–date, 22 v.
Judgment Docket, 1840–1880, 2 v. (B–C)
Execution Docket, 1840–1884, 3 v. (B–D)
Judgment and Execution Docket, 1881–date, 1 v. (E)
Lien Record (docket of mechanics' liens), 1888–date, 1 v. (A)
Fee Book, 1843–date, 25 v. (A–Y)

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Justice of the Peace Transcript Record, 1858–date, 2 v. (A–B)
City of Cairo, Court of Common Pleas, 1859–1869, 2 v. (B–C)[1]

The contents include common law, chancery, and criminal cases.

City of Cairo, Court of Common Pleas, Fee Book, 1859–1869, 4 v. (A–D)
City of Cairo, Court of Common Pleas, Judges' Docket, 1859–1869, 4 v. (A–D)
City of Cairo, Court of Common Pleas, Judgment Docket, 1859–1869, 1 v.
City of Cairo, Court of Common Pleas, Execution Docket, 1859–1869, 1 v.

Circuit Clerk—Recorder

RECORDERS' RECORDS

Entry Book, Alexander County, 1860–date, 10 v. (A–J)

[1]A court of common pleas was established at Cairo by act of February 6, 1855 (*Laws of 1855*, p. 155) with jurisdiction practically identical in common and criminal law with that of the circuit court. Its records were destroyed by fire in 1858 and the court itself abolished by act of February 19, 1869. *Laws of 1869*, p. 127.

Entry Book, City of Cairo, 1856–1865, 2 v. (A–B)[1]

Deed and Mortgage Record, 1819–date, 102 v. (A–Z, 1–76; F, H, and I not used)

Up to 1865 (v. Q), deeds and mortgages were recorded in the same volumes; after that year they were kept in separate volumes, but in the same series.

Plat Book, 1856–date, 4 v.

Deed Record, City of Cairo, 1858–1865, 6 v. (A–F)

General Index, grantor and grantee, 1819–date, 12 v. (A–L)

Index to Marginal Releases and Assignments, 1905–date, 1 v. (A)

Chattel Mortgage Record, 1860–date, 31 v. (A–Z, 1–5)

Index to Chattel Mortgages, 1885–date, 3 v. (A–C)

Record of Masters' Certificates of Sale and Redemption, 1867–date, 2 v. (A–B)

Record of Sheriffs' Certificates of Levy, Sale, and Redemption, 1860–date, 2 v. (A–B)

Volume "A" has 664 p., all blank but 98.

Field Notes, Alexander County, c. 1873, 1 v.

The volume contains plats and descriptions of corners of sections and quarter sections.

[1]A register's office was established in Cairo by act of February 17, 1857. (*Laws of 1857*, p. 125.) The records of this office and those of the court of common pleas were destroyed by fire, December 8, 1858. (*Laws of 1859*, p. 139.) It was abolished by act of February 16, 1865. *Laws of 1865*, p. 42.

BOND COUNTY[1]

The county was set off from Madison in 1817 and later enlarged from the same county; the county seat is Greenville. The courthouse is located in a public square. It is not fireproof but has good vaults. Part of the shelves and filingboxes are metallic and part of them wooden. With the exception of the early tax records which are in the attic, all records are housed in vaults.

County Clerk

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' AND SUPERVISORS' RECORDS

County Record, June, 1817–March, 1823, 1 v., indexed.

The county commissioners' records, 1817–1823 (pp. 1–138), include: tavern licenses, ferry licenses, and rates; orders to pay claims against county; orders for wolf scalps; ad quod damnum proceedings; tax rates and levies, etc.; some probate matters of record; stock marks and brands; lists of officers; register of Negroes under fourteen years of age;[2] register of marriage licenses and certificates. The volume is 8 x 13 inches in size.

County Commissioners' Record, June, 1825–October, 1849, 4 v.

[1] Examined June, 1912.

[2] The following excerpt from the county records, 1817–1823, p. 144 serves to illustrate the form and substance of Negro registrations:

NEGROES REGISTERED UNDER THE AGE OF FOURTEEN YEARS
Agreeable to act of September 17, 1807, sec. 6.

Date Registered	Owners' Name	Negroes' Name and Age
March, 1817	Martin Jones, esq.	Tom (boy) 11 years.
June, 1817	William Vollentine	Silas (boy) 5 "
June 30, 1817	Hardy Vollentine	Tisby (girl) 14 "
December 18, 1817	Hugh Kirkpatrick	Titus (boy) 10 "
	" "	Bob (boy) 5 "
	" "	Haley (girl) 2 "

On the page opposite is record that on same day two Negro women, Edah and Elsie, indentured themselves to Hugh Kirkpatrick for ninety-nine years. A Negro, Peter, was indentured to Isaac Hill for ten years, February 21, 1818.

The contents include orders to pay claims; orders appointing supervisors of roads, etc.; records of boundaries of road districts; lists of grand and petit jurors; copies of bonds; records of various reports made to court; surveys of roads, etc. The volumes are of regular size, containing 254 p.; the volume for 1828–1834 is in circuit clerk's vault, third cupboard from door.

County Court Record, January, 1850–March, 1877, 2 v. (B–C)

County Commissioners' Record, June, 1877–March, 1889, 2 v. (C–D)

Supervisors' Record, 1889–date, 3 v. (1–3)

Index to Supervisors' Record, 1889–date, 1 v.

Supervisors' Papers, 1883–date.

Those prior to 1903 are in cupboard at end of vault; those for 1903–date are in 18 f.b.

Road Plat Record, 1839–date, 1 v.

Plats, descriptions and petitions are recorded.

Road Supervisors' Annual Reports, 1885–1887.

These are tied in bundles and stored in the cupboard at the end of the vault.

Road Papers, 1819–date, 8 f.b.

The papers include petitions, reports, etc.

Indentures of Apprentices, 1836–1865.

There is one bundle of these in the cupboard in the vault.

Jury List, 1872–date, 1 v.

COUNTY COURT RECORDS

Common Law Record, 1859–date, 5 v. (A–E)

County Court Files, Common Law and Criminal, 1857–date, 68 f.b.

Insanity Record, 1901–date, 1 v. (1)

Insane and Conservators' Record, 1879–1901, 1879–1909, 2 v. (1–2)

Volume 2 contains insanity records, 1892–1901, and conservators' bonds and letters, 1892–1909; it is blank from p. 38 to p. 318.

Insanity Files, 1879–date, 2 f.b.

Naturalization Record, 1866–1906, 3 v. (1–3)

Declarations of intention and final certificate of naturalization are recorded. There are only from four to twenty entries in each volume,

Judges' Docket (common law and criminal), 1872–date, 3 v.

Insanity Docket, 1894–date, 1 v. (1)

Judgment Docket, 1859–1892, 1 v. (A)

Judgment and Execution Docket, 1893–date, 1 v. (B)

Fee Book: Common Law, 1872–1899, 1 v.; Criminal, 1872–1899, 1 v.; Common Law and Criminal, 1899–date, 2 v.

Drainage Record, 1884–1890, 1 v.

This is a record of petitions, bonds, surveys, etc.

TAXATION RECORDS

Abstract of Assessment, 1900–date, 2 v.

Abstract of Footings of Collectors' Books, 1894–date, 6 v.

School District Plat Book, 1861–1895, 1 v.

Railroad and Telegraph Tax Schedules, 1890–date, 5 f.b.

Telegraph and Telephone Tax Book, 1896–date, 2 v.

Assessors' Books, 1859–date.

Collectors' Books, 1853–date.

Board of Review Record, 1899–date, 1 v. (1)

Board of Review Complaint Docket, 1899–date, 1 v. (1)

Tax Sale and Redemption Record, 1856–1879, 4 v.

Tax Judgment, Sale, Redemption and Forfeiture Record, 1880–date, 5 v.

Record of Affidavits for Tax Deeds, 1871–date, 3 v. (A–C)

RECORDS OF VITAL STATISTICS

Marriage Licenses granted in Bond county, March, 1817–January, 1821, pp. 151–152.

This record includes date of license and names of parties. It is found in the volume labeled, "County Record."

Record of Marriages solemnized, September, 1817–November, 1820, p. 150.

This record includes date of marriage, by whom solemnized, by what authority (i.e., by license or advertisement), and names of man and woman. The record is in the volume labeled, "County Record."

Record of Marriages, April, 1820–August, 1830, 1 folio (28 p. unbound), indexed.

This folio contains copies of certificates of marriage. It is laid inside the cover of "Register of Marriages Nov. 1830–Dec. 1857," 1 v. (164 p., 8 x 13 inches). The register is ruled for date of license, names of parties, when and by whom married.

Marriage Register, 1817–1877, 1 v. (A)

The register contains: date of license; names of parties; when and by whom married. Pages 1–108 contain the original records, 1858–1877; beginning on p. 108, the marriage records, 1817–December, 1857, have been transcribed from the older records.

Register of Marriages, 1878–date, 3 v. (1–3)

This contains the board of health record.

Index to Marriages, 1817–1877, 1 v.

Index to Marriages, Births, and Deaths, 1877–date, 2 v.

Record of Applications for Marriage License, 1891–date, 6 v. (A–F)

Marriage Licenses, 1817–date, 21 f.b.

Register of Births, 1878–date, 6 v. (1–6)

Register of Still Births, 1877–date, 1 v. (A)

Register of Deaths, 1878–date, 3 v. (A–C)

Birth and Death Reports, 1877–1905, in cupboard; 1906–date, 6 f.b.

Register of Physicians and Accoucheurs, 1877–date, 1 v. (1)

Record of Physicians', Veterinary Surgeons', Dentists', and Accoucheurs' Certificates, 1908–date, 1 v.

This is a blank book with no printed forms—all entries are written in with typewriter.

Record of Physicians' Certificates, 1877–1908, 1 v. (1)

Tabulated Schedules of Agricultural Statistics, 1879–1895, in cupboard in vault.

"Census Book, 1880, Bond County," 1 v.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Poll Books and Abstract of Votes, 1823–1888.

These are in the last cupboard, on right hand side at end of vault.

Abstract of Votes, 1836–1865, 1 f.b.

This is in the top row at the east end of the vault.

Assessors' Bond Record, 1899–date, 1 v. (1)

Official Bond Record, 1908–date, 1 v. (AA)

Official bonds of county officers are recorded.

Register of County and Township Officers, 1865–date, 2 v. (1–2)

The register includes names of officers; date of election; office held; and for what term.

Register of Commissions, 1835–1864, 1 v.

Date of election, name of officer and office, when sworn into office, and date of resignation are recorded. This is an unlabeled volume, 8 x 13 inches, with cardboard binding.

County Officers' Report Record, 1893–1910, 1 v. (1)

This contains reports by county clerk, circuit clerk, sheriff, and treasurer, of all fees and emoluments.

"School Commissioners Sale Book," 1834–1858, 1 v.

This volume has 75 p., is 8 x 13 inches in size, and contains copies of petitions to sell school lands, with records of sales, giving date, amount sold, price, and to whom sold.

County Clerk—Probate

PROBATE COURT RECORDS

Probate Record, 1821–date, 83 v. (1–83)

Up to 1850 all probate records were kept in the same volumes. Gradually the various classes of records—bonds and letters, inventories, appraisements, sale bills, report records, and court records proper—have been put in separate volumes. All these records are still kept in one series and numbered consecutively.

Index to Probate Record, 1823–date.

The index lists name of estate and of administrator, and reference to records showing where each order, inventory, sale bill, bond, will, etc., is recorded.

Probate Files, 1817–date, 317 f.b.

DOCKETS AND FEE BOOKS, ETC.

Judges' Docket, Probate, 1859–1870, 1 v. (1)

Judges' Docket, Probate and County Court, 1870–1878, 1 v. (2)

Probate Judges' Docket, 1876–date, 7 v. (A–G)

The contents are name of estate and ward; name of administrator or guardian; kind of action, date, and order of court.

Estate Docket, 1859–1871, 1 v. (A)

The volume is labeled "Docket."

Guardians' Docket, 1882–1890.

This is a combination of docket and ledger. It gives names of guardian, wards, and bondsmen; date of letters of guardianship, date and amount of inventory bill, etc.; also record of current accounts with wards.

Probate Claim Docket, 1883–1895, 1 v. (A)

The contents are: name of estate and claimant; date, nature and amount

of claim; judgment of court. A second volume, 1895–date, is v. 69 in the probate series.

Probate Fee Book, 1866–date, 10 v. (A–J)

Record of Wills, 1854–1897, 2 v. (1–2)

Widows' Relinquishment and Selection Record, 1894–date, 2 v. (A–B)

Clerk of the Circuit Court

CIRCUIT COURT RECORDS

Circuit Court Record, 1821–1886, 12 v. (A–L)

Circuit Court Record: Chancery, 1887–date, 10 v. (1–10); Criminal, 1887–1907, 2 v. (1–2); Common Law, 1887–1907, 2 v. (1–2); Common Law and Criminal, 1907–date, 1 v. (3)

Recognizance Record, 1877–1904, 1 v. (A)

Pages 26–415 are blank.

Index to Court Record, plaintiffs and defendants, 1852–1858, 1 v.; 1858–date, 1 v. each for plaintiff and defendant.

Circuit Court Files, 1818–date, 270 f.b. of common law and chancery.

The older criminal files are kept in cupboards in the vault.

Index to Circuit Court Files, 1 v.

Naturalization Record: Declaration of Intention, 1859–1910, 1 v. (1); Final Certificate of Naturalization, 1858–1888, 1 v. (2)

DOCKETS AND FEE BOOKS

Judges' Docket, 1880–date, 4 v. (A–D)

Judgment Docket, 1840–1883, 3 v.

Execution Docket, 1869–1885, 1 v.

Judgment and Execution Docket, 1884–date, 2 v. (4–5)

Record [docket] of Mechanics' Liens, 1888–date, 2 v. (1–2)

Master in Chancery Docket, 1883–1901, 1 v. (1)

The contents are date of term; parties; abstract of suit; description of real estate to be sold; account of money received and record of receipts for money paid out.

Fee Book, 1825–1856, 4 v.; 1857–date, 14 v. (A–N)

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Justice of the Peace Transcript Record, 1857–date, 3 v. (C–E)

States Attorneys' Report Record, 1889–date, 1 v.

Indictment Record, 1879–1894, 1 v. (1)

Pages 48–288 are blank.

Coroners' Record, 1876–1905, 1 v. (A)

The headings are name of deceased, date of inquest, names of jurors and witnesses, and verdict.

Circuit Clerk—Recorder

DEED AND MORTGAGE RECORDS

Entry Book, 1866–date, 7 v. (A–G)

Deed Record, 1817–date, 86 v. (A–Z, AA, 1–59)

Mortgage Record, 1856–date, 53 v. (1–53)

From 1856 to 1865, mortgages and chattel mortgages were recorded in the same volumes; since 1865 they have been recorded in different volumes which are still numbered consecutively.

Release Record, 1871–date, 7 v. (1–7)

Oil, Coal, and Gas Lease Record, 1906–date, 10 v. (1–10)

General Index (deeds), 1817–date, 7 v. each for grantor and grantee.

Index to Mortgages, 1856–date, 7 v. each for mortgagor and mortgagee.

Index to Marginal Releases and Assignments, 1905–date, 1 v. (1)

Index to Chattel Mortgages, 1885–date, 3 v.

Record of Certificates of Election of Trustees, 1872–date, 2 v. (1–2)

CERTIFICATES OF LEVY, SALE, AND REDEMPTION

Record of Sheriffs' Certificates of Levy and Sale, 1859–date, 1 v. (A)

"Levy & Sale Record B," 1859–1875, 1 v.

This contains certificates of levy and sale by sheriff, 1856–1859, and masters' certificates of sale and redemption, 1860–1875. The volume is 8 x 13 inches with cardboard back.

Record of Masters' Certificates of Sale and Redemption, 1870–date, 1 v.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Surveyors' Record, 1855–1907, 1 v.

Plats and surveys are included.

Township Plats, 1859, 1 v.

Original Land Entry Book, 1815–1875, 1 v.

Land List, c. 1818–1850, 1 v.

A list of original land entries in the county.

Collectors' Bond Record, 1889–date, 1 v. (1)

Stallion Register, 1910–date, 1 v. (1); Renewals, 1911–date, 1 v. (2)

Census Schedule of Bond County, 1830, 1 unbound folio.

The schedules show names of heads of families and number of white males and females, with ages; number of Negroes and mulattoes; number of militia; number of mills, stills, etc. This was found in one of the numerous cupboards and put in filingbox, "Miscellaneous," on left-hand side of door.

Miscellaneous Record, 1886–date, 2 v. (1–2)

BOONE COUNTY[1]

Boone county was organized from Winnebago in 1837; in 1843 it received additional territory from the same county. The county seat is Belvidere. The county and circuit clerk's offices are located in a building in the public square apart from the courthouse. The record rooms in the offices are fireproof and equipped with metal filing material. Electric light and steam heat are used.

County Clerk

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' AND SUPERVISORS' RECORDS

County Commissioners' Court Record, 1836–1846, 1 v.

The contents include location, surveys and plats of roads; appointment of road viewers and supervisors; petitions for roads, etc. (signatures omitted); boundaries of road and election districts; tavern licenses; and oaths and bonds. The volume is a transcript of records of Winnebago county concerning territory in Boone county.

County Commissioners' Court Record, March, 1846–October, 1849, 1 v.

The volume records road petitions, appointment of viewers, and their reports; surveys and plats; bridges; tavern licenses; election districts, and appointment of judges; abstracts of votes (exceptional entry); tax rates; measures for care of poor; orders to pay claims against county, etc.

Supervisors' Record, 1849–date, 5 v. (1–5)

COUNTY COURT RECORDS

County Court Record, 1854–date, v. A–date.

County Court Record, Judgment by Confession, 1857–1890, 1 v. (A)

Index to Court Records, 1872–date, 1 v. each for plaintiff and defendant.

Assignment Record, 1888–1895, 1 v. (A)

This is a court record of voluntary assignments, including inventories of the property of assignees.

[1] Examined June, 1912.

Record of Special Assessments, 1897–date, 2 v. (1–2)

Names of owners, description of property assessed, and amount of assessment are recorded.

Insane and Conservators' Record, 1885–1904, 1 v. (1)

Insanity Record, 1904–date, 1 v. (2)

Naturalization Record, 1858–1906, 6 v.

This is a record of declaration of intention and final certificate of naturalization.

County Court Judges' Docket, 1872–date, 4 v. (A–D)

Judgment Docket, 1856–date, 2 v. (A, 1)

Execution Docket, 1856–date, 2 v. (A, 1)

Docket of Official Bonds, 1876–date, 4 v. (A–D)

The headings are: name of officer; office; date and amount of bond; names of sureties and remarks.

County Court Fee Book, 1872–date, 3 v. (1–3)

TAXATION RECORDS

Abstracts of Assessment and Taxes, 1877–date, 3 v. (A–C)

The volumes give tabular statements of the footings of each page of the assessors' books, together with a grand summary of all property of different classes in the county.

Docket of Rates and Amounts Wanted, 1878–date, 3 v.

School District Plat Book, 1862–date, 2 v. (A–B)

Telephone and Telegraph Tax Book, 1893–date, 2 v.

Railroad Tax Book, 1863–date, 7 v.

Assessors' Books, 1850–date.

Collectors' Books, 1850–date.

Tax Judgment Record, 1850–1879, 2 v. (1–2)

Tax Sale and Redemption Record, 1846–1879, 2 v. (1–2)

Tax Judgment, Sale, Redemption, and Forfeiture Record, 1880–date, 4 v. (A–D)

RECORDS OF VITAL STATISTICS

Marriage Register, January, 1850–August, 1857, 1 v.

Certificates of marriage, giving names and dates are recorded.

Marriage Register, August, 1857–November, 1896, 1 v.

The headings are number and date of license; names (and after 1874, age and residence) of parties; date of marriage and by whom solemnized; when registered.

Register of Marriages, 1877–date, 2 v. (1–2); Index by male and female, 2 v.

The board of health form.

Marriage Licenses, 1838–date, 14 f.b.

Register of Births, 1877–date, 3 v. (1–3)

Register of Still Births, 1877–date, 1 v.

Register of Deaths, 1877–date, 2 v. (1–2)

Birth Reports, 1900–date, 3 f.b.

Death Reports, 1900–date, 2 f.b.

Record of Physicians' Certificates, 1877–date, 2 v. (1–2)

Register of Physicians and Accoucheurs, 1877–date, 1 v. (1)

The headings are name and address; school of practice; age, nativity, number of years in practice; date of certificate; whether certificate was obtained by examination or diploma; date of filing certificate.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Register of County Officers Elected, 1877–date, 2 v. (A–B)

The contents are name of officer; residence; when elected and for how long; remarks.

Assessors' Bond Record, 1899–date, 1 v. (A)

Militia Roll Record, 1861–1862, 1 v. (A)

At the back of this volume are recorded a dozen or more soldiers' discharges.

County Clerk—Probate

PROBATE COURT RECORD

Probate Record, 1840–1849, 1 v. (A)

These records contain wills; letters and bonds of administrators and executors; claims against estates; and (up to 1843) appraisements, inventories and sale bills; reports and settlements; court orders, etc.

Probate Record, 1843–1849, 1 v. (B)

The contents are orders of court, appraisement and sale bills, accounts and settlements, letters and bonds of guardians, etc.

Probate Court Record, December, 1849–date, 25 v. (C–Z, 27)

The contents include record of probate of will, of appointment of executor, of filing reports, claims, inventory, and other papers; orders of court, etc.; appointment of administrators and guardians; also in first volume or two, appraisements, sale bills, etc.

Probate Files, 1837–date, 163 f.b.

Estate and guardianship files are in different boxes.

DOCKETS AND FEE BOOKS

Probate Judges Docket, February, 1852–February, 1854, 1 v.; January, 1856–December, 1857, 1 v.; 1859–date, 13 v. (A–M)

The headings are name of estate; action; date; order of court.

Estate Docket, 1856–1878, 1 v. (A)

The headings are name of deceased and of administrator; date of death and of letters; amount of bond and names of sureties; names of widow and heirs; date of filing; the amount of and place of record of inventory, sale bills, appraisement bills, and widow's selection.

Probate Estate Ledger, 1877–1888, 2 v. (A–B)

Name of administrator and estate, amount of inventory and sale bills, total receipts, list of claims allowed, giving date, nature, amount, and name of claimant, are recorded.

Estate Docket and Ledger, 1888–date, 5 v. (C–G)

It includes a docket of estate—same form as estate docket—register of claims allowed, and items of debit and credit.

Probate Judgment Docket, 1859–date, 4 v. (A–D)

The headings are: number of claim, when filed, name of claimant, and of estate; nature and amount of claim; judgment of court thereon; remarks.

Probate Fee Book, 1884–date, 7 v. (C–I)

RECORD OF WILLS, BONDS, AND LETTERS

Record of Wills, 1885–date, 4 v. (A–D)

This is a record of probate of will and copy of will. Before 1885 wills were recorded in the "Probate Record."

Executors', Administrators' and Guardians' Record, 1859–1877, 2 v. (A–B)

Bonds, oaths, and letters are recorded.

Administrators' Record, 1878–date, 4 v. (C–F)

The volumes are court records of petition for letters and order thereon, with administrators' bond, oath, and letters of administration.

Executors' Record, 1875–date, 4 v. (C–F)

This is a record of petition for letters, and of bond, oath, and letters. It includes administrators with will annexed.

Conservators' Record, 1904–date, 1 v. (3)

Guardians' Record, 1874–date, 3 v. (C–E)

The contents include petitions for letters of guardianship, giving names and ages of minors, bond of guardian and letters of guardianship on one page, and court record of appearance, petition, and order on the other.

Miscellaneous Bond Record, 1901–date, 2 v. (A–B)

INVENTORIES, APPRAISEMENTS, SALE BILLS, ETC.

Inventory, Appraisement, and Sale Record, 1859–1878, 3 v. (A–C)

Inventory Record, 1878–date, 6 v. (D–I)

Appraisement Record, 1878–date, 3 v. (D–F)

Sale Record, 1878–date, 2 v. (D–E)

Widows' Relinquishment and Selection Record, 1878–date, 3 v. (D–F)

Report Record, 1883–date, 6 v. (A–F)

The volumes record reports filed by administrators, executors, or guardians showing items of receipts and expenditures. These were formerly kept in probate court record.

Probate Ledger, 1859–1885, 1 v. (A)

This is an account of receipts and expenditures of the agents of estates.

Clerk of the Circuit Court

CIRCUIT COURT RECORDS

Circuit Court Record, 1839–date, 27 v. (1–27)

Till 1875 common law, chancery, and criminal records were kept in the same volumes; since that year they are in separate volumes of the same series.

Index to Court Record, 1858–date, 2 v. each for plaintiff and defendant.

Circuit Court Files, 1838–date, 180 f.b.

Naturalization Record, 1850–1906, 7 v.

Declarations of intention and final certificates are recorded.

DOCKETS AND FEE BOOKS

Circuit Court Docket, 1839–date.

A separate volume is begun for each term of court; some of the earlier volumes are missing.

Judgment Docket, 1838–date, 5 v. (1–5)

Execution Docket, 1849–date, 3 v. (2–4)

Docket of Mechanics' Liens, 1887–date, 1 v. (1)

Fee Book, 1840–date, 19 v. (B–T)

Justice of the Peace Transcript Record, 1849–date, 2 v. (1–2)

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

States Attorneys' Report Record, 1875–date, 1 v. (1)

The contents give reports of fines collected by states attorney, specifying name of case, cause of action, date of trial, and amount of fine.

Circuit Clerk—Recorder

DEED AND MORTGAGE RECORDS

Entry Book, 1838–date, 8 v. (1–8)
Deed Record, 1838–date, 70 v. (1–70)
Mortgage Record, 1838–date, 47 v. (1–47)
Release Record, 1870–date, 8 v. (1–8)
Assignment of Mortgage Record, 1887–date, 3 v. (1–3)

The contents include records of assignment of mortgage by original mortgagee to some other party.

General Index to Mortgages, 1838–date, 5 v. each for mortgagor and mortgagee.
General Index to Deeds, 1838–date, 7 v. each for grantor and grantee.
Chattel Mortgage Record, 1838–date, 25 v.

CERTIFICATES OF LEVY, SALE, AND REDEMPTION

Record of Certificates of Levy, Sale, and Redemption, 1841–date, 4 v. (1–4)

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Surveyors' Record, 1858–date, 2 v. (1–2)
Collectors' Bond Record, 1871–date, 1 v. (A)
Miscellaneous Record, 1882–date, 3 v. (1–3)

BROWN COUNTY[1]

Brown county was set off in 1839 from Schuyler; the county seat is Mt. Sterling. The courthouse is not fireproof, and many of the records are outside the vaults. Metal filing equipment is used.

County Clerk

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' AND SUPERVISORS' RECORDS

County Commissioners' Court Record, 1839–1883, 3 v.
Supervisors' Record, 1880–date, 2 v. (4–5)
Register of County Orders Issued, 1882–date, 3 v.

COUNTY COURT RECORDS

County Court Record, 1872–date, 3 v. (A–C)
Default Record, 1872–1909, 1 v.
Index to Court Record, 1872–1897, 1 v. each for plaintiff and defendant.
Insane and Conservators' Record, 1874–date, 1 v. (A)
Insanity Record, 1894–1907, 1 v.
Naturalization Record: Declaration of Intention, 1879–1897, 1 v.; Final Certificate, 1876–1900, 2 v.
Miscellaneous Court Record, 1885–date, 1 v. (1)
Judges' Docket, 1872–date, 3 v.
Judgment Docket, 1873–date, 1 v.
Execution Docket, 1850–1862, 1 v.; 1872–date, 1 v.
Docket of Official Bonds, 1884–1890, 1 v.
Court Fee Book (common law and criminal), 1872–date, 3 v.

TAXATION RECORDS

Record of Lands Listed for Taxation, 1853, 1 v.
Tax Assessors' Book, 1847, 1 v.

[1] Examined June–July, 1912; reëxamined June, 1915.

Collectors' Books, 1854–date.
Assessors' books are in the treasurer's office.
Railroad Tax Book, 1873–date, 3 v.
Telegraph Tax Book, 1884–1910, 1 v.
Telegraph and Telephone Tax Book, 1910–date, 1 v.
Transcript of Delinquent Taxes on Town Lots and Lands, c. 1849–1904, 17 v.
Tax Judgment Record, 1839–1880, 4 v.
Tax Sale Record, 1839–1859, 2 v.
Tax Judgment, Sale and Redemption Record, 1860–date, 9 v.
Record of Affidavits for Tax Deeds, 1850–1906, 2 v.
County Collectors in Account with County Treasurer, 1882–1898, 1 v.
Record of Settlements of Town Officers, 1879–1892, 1 v.

RECORDS OF VITAL STATISTICS

Record of Applications for Marriage License, 1839–1850; 1850–1861; 1878–date, 7 v. in all.
Register of Marriages, 1839–1885, 2 v.; 1877–date, 2 v.
The two latter volumes are the board of health form.
Index to Marriages, male and female, 2 v.
Register of Births, 1878–date, 3 v.; Index, 1 v.
Register of Still Births, 1879–1891, 1 v.
Register of Deaths, 1878–date, 3 v. (1–3); Index, 1 v.
Register of Physicians and Accoucheurs, 1877–date, 1 v.
Record of Physicians' Certificates, 1877–date, 2 v.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Record of Bonds of Constables and Justices, 1877–date, 1 v. (A)
Record of Dog License Bonds, 1880–1890, 1 v. (A)
Register of County Officers, 1903–date, 1 v. (C)
Estray Record, 1839–1890, 1 v.

County Clerk—Probate

PROBATE COURT RECORDS

Probate Record, 1839–date, 23 v. (1–2, 4–24)
Probate Judgment Record of Claims, 1879–1910, 4 v.
Continued in the probate ledger.

Court Order Book, 1850–1853, 1 v.
Estate Files, 1850–date, 126 f.b.
Index to Estate Files, 1 v.
Guardians', Conservators', Administrators', and Executors' Files, 66 f.b.

DOCKETS AND FEE BOOKS

Probate Docket, 1886–date, 2 v. (1–2)

The contents include name of estate and of applicant, purpose of application, and order of court.

Probate Estate Docket, 1858–1871, 1 v. (A)
Guardian Estate Docket, 1883–1910, 1 v. (1)
Probate Judgment Docket, 1850–date, 6 v. (A–F)
Probate Fee Book, 1886–date, 5 v. (1–5)
Estate Fee Book, 1850–1867, 1 v.
Guardians' and Conservators' Fee Book, 1909–date, 2 v.

RECORDS OF WILLS, BONDS, AND LETTERS

Record of Wills, 1849–date, 5 v. (1 v. unnumbered, B–E)
Record of Administrators' and Executors' Bonds and Letters, 1839–date, 7 v. (first three unnumbered, and C–F)

The first three volumes also include inventories, appraisements, and sale bills.

Executors' Record, 1869–date, 3 v. (B–D)
Conservators' Bond Record, 1906–date, 1 v. (D)
Guardians' Letters and Bond Record, 1858–date, 4 v.
Administrators' Bond Record, Sale of Real Estate, 1895–1906, 1 v.
Miscellaneous Probate Record, 1880–date, 2 v.

The records include bonds of administrators de bonis non and with will annexed.

INVENTORIES, APPRAISEMENTS, AND SALE BILLS, ETC.

Inventory, Appraisement, and Sale Record, 1850–1866, 1 v.
Estate Inventory Record, 1870–date, 4 v. (B–E)
Guardians' Inventory Record, 1879–date, 2 v.
Copartnership Inventory and Appraisement Record, 1875–1910, 1 v.
Appraisement Record, 1869–date, 5 v. (B–F)
Private Sale of Personal Property Record, 1892–date, 1 v. (1)

"Sale Bills of Personal Estate," 1869–date, 3 v. (B–D)
Widows' Relinquishment Record, 1893–1909, 1 v. (A)
Widows' Selection Record, 1909–date, 1 v. (B)
Probate Ledger, 1852–1861, 1 v. (A); 1901–date, 2 v.
Estate Ledger, 1877–1900, 2 v. (B–C)
Report Record, 1884–1903, 1 v.
Estate Sale Record, 1897–date, 2 v. (1–2)
Real estate sales to settle accounts and pay debts are recorded.

Clerk of the Circuit Court

CIRCUIT COURT RECORDS

Circuit Court Record: Chancery, 1840–date, 13 v. (1–13); Common Law, 1840–date, 8 v.; Criminal, 1873–date, 3 v.; Record of Defaults, 1859–date, 2 v.; Recognizance Record, 1868–1880, 1 v. (A)
"Complete Record," 1837–1870, 1 v.
A miscellaneous court record.
Common Law Files, 1837–date, 63 f.b.
Chancery Files, 1840–date, 72 f.b.
Criminal Files, 1840–date, 28 f.b.
Naturalization Record, Declaration of Intention, 1858–1890; Final Certificate, 1857–1874.

DOCKETS AND FEE BOOKS, ETC.

Court Docket, 1844–1862, 4 v.
Judges' Docket, 1866–1908, 19 v.
Judgment Docket, 1840–date, 5 v.
Executions, 1840–date, 13 f.b.
Docket of Mechanics' Liens, 1887–date, 1 v. (A)
Fee Book, 1841–date, 5 v.
Justice of the Peace Transcript Record, 1847–1885, 1 v. (A)

Circuit Clerk—Recorder

DEED AND MORTGAGE RECORDS

Entry Book, 1839–date, 11 v. (1–11)
Record of Deeds, Conveyances, and Mortgages, 1818–date, 110 v. (A–D, A–Z, 27–106)

Index, 7 v. (1–7) each for grantor and grantee.
Index to Marginal Releases, 1905–date, 1 v. (1)
Sectional Index [Tract Index], 1818–date, 8 v. (1–8)
Index to Town Lots, 1829–date, 3 v. (1–3)
Record of Masters' Certificates of Sale, 1883–1909, 1 v. (1)
Record of Sheriffs' Certificates of Levy, Sale, and Redemption, 1846–date, 2 v. (A–B)
Township Plats, 1 v.
Surveyors' Record, 1837–date, 3 v. (1–3)
Collectors' Bonds, 1858–date.
Miscellaneous Record, 1880–date, 2 v. (1–2)

BUREAU COUNTY[1]

The county was set off from Putnam in 1837, and in 1839 was enlarged at the expense of the same county; the county seat is Princeton. The courthouse is not fireproof but the vaults appear to be. Steam heat and gas light are used.

County Clerk

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' AND SUPERVISORS' RECORDS

County Commissioners' Record, June, 1837–1850, 3 v.

The contents include reports of road viewers, record of petitions for roads, plats of roads, appropriations for roads and bridges; elections of justices and constables; appointment of road supervisors and fence viewers; tax rates and levies; tavern rates; jury lists; and appointment of school commissioners and of trustees of school lands.

Supervisors' Record, April, 1850–date, 10 v. (A–J)

Supervisors' proceedings, orders, resolutions, etc. are recorded.

Record of Roads, 1831–1838, 1 v.

The contents include plats and field notes, reports of road viewers, etc. In the front of this volume is the record of lands sold for taxes, 1833–1837; it is copied from Putnam county records.

Record of Roads, 1837–1852, 1 v.

A record of field notes, plats, etc.

Register of County Orders, 1865–date, 5 v. (1, A–D)

Jury List, 1872–date, 2 v.

COUNTY COURT RECORDS

County Court Record, 1872–date, 4 v. (A–D)

County Court Files (common law and criminal), 1872–date, 24 f.b.

Drainage Record, 1901–date, 1 v., indexed.

Proceedings and reports of committees, plats, etc. are recorded.

Drainage Papers, 1893–date, 2 f.b.

Contents: proceedings, reports of committees, etc.

[1] Examined February, 1912.

Adoption Record, 1897–date, 1 v. (A)

Petition and decree of adoption are given.

Adoption Papers, 1867–date, 1 f.b.

Insane and Conservators' Record, 1873–1892, 1 v. (A)

The contents include petition for trial, verdict of jury giving cause of insanity where known; also conservators' bonds, oaths, and letters, 1873–date.

Insanity Record, 1893–date, 2 v. (A–B)

Petition for trial, verdict of jury, and disposition of insane person are recorded.

Insanity Files, 1853–date, 12 f.b.

Naturalization Record, 1876–1906, 12 v.

Declarations of intention, certificates of final papers, etc., of adults and minors are recorded.

Naturalization Papers, 1876–1906, 11 f.b. (A32–A42)

Judgment and Execution Docket, 1872–date, 1 v.

Insanity Docket, 1893–date, 2 v. (1–2)

County Court Fee Book, 1872–date, 3 v.

TAXATION RECORDS

Abstract of Assessment and Taxes, 1876–date, 3 v. (1–3)

Statement of Assessment, etc. to Auditor, 1884–date, 2 f.b. (B58–B59)

Docket of Rates and Amounts Wanted, 1876–date, 3 v. (1–3)

School Plat Record, 1872–date, 1 v. (B)

Road Plats, 1879–1896, 1 v.

The contents are plats showing boundaries of road districts. Old road plats are in f.b. 45.

Railroad Tax Schedules, 1886–date, 6 f.b.

Telephone and Telegraph Tax Schedules, 1887–date, 3 f.b.

Delinquent Tax Lists, 1874–date, 2 f.b.

Assessors' Books, 1838–1839, 1844–date.

Collectors' Books, 1838–1839, 1844–date.

Telegraph and Telephone Tax Book, 1888–date, 3 v. (1–3)

Railroad Tax Book, 1880–date, 5 v. (C–G)

Docket of Board of Review, 1899–date, 2 v.

Tax Judgment Record, 1849–1879, 9 v.

Certificates of Purchase and of Redemption, 1883–date, 7 f.b.

Tax Sale Record, 1823–1879, 9 v.

Tax Judgment, Sale, Redemption and Forfeiture Record, 1880–1911, 29 v.

Tax Sale Index, 1840–date, 3 v.

This is a loose-leaf index to lands sold for taxes.

Affidavits for Tax Deeds, 1869–date, 2 f.b.

Inheritance Tax Record, c. 1900–date, 2 v.

Collectors' Accounts with County, 1873–date, 1 v.

Treasurers' Accounts with County, 1873–date, 1 v.

RECORDS OF VITAL STATISTICS

Marriage License Record, 1857–date, 11 v. (E–O)

The volumes contain copy of license, of officiants' certificates of marriage, and affidavit for marriage license.

Register of Marriages, January, 1878–October, 1882, 1 v. (1)

Index to Marriage Records, 1837–date, 2 v.; Index, 1 v. each for male and female.

Marriage Register, 1837–1857, 3 v. (A–C)

These are certificates of marriage by officiants, giving names and date of marriage.

Marriage Licenses, 1837–date, 23 f.b.

Board of health form is now used.

Marriage Affidavits and Consents of Parents, 1848–date, 7 f.b.

Register of Births, 1878–date, 9 v. (1–9); Index, 3 v.

Register of Still Births, 1878–1903, 1 v. (1)

Register of Deaths, 1878–date, 6 v. (1–6)

Coroners' Death Record, 1910–date, 1 v. (1); Index, 1 v.

Birth Reports, 1878–date, 5 f.b.

Death Reports, 1878–date, 4 f.b.

Register of Physicians and Accoucheurs, 1877–date, 1 v.

Record of Physicians', Dentists', and Veterinary Surgeons' Certificates, 1877–date, 2 v. (1–2)

Record of Registered Nurses' Certificates, 1910–date, 1 v.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Abstract of Agricultural Statistics, 1880–1884, 1892, 1 v. (1)

Poll Books, 1848–1872.

These are in basement, filed away in letter files.

Assessors' Bond Record, 1899–date, 1 v. (1)

Register of Officers, 1862–date, 2 v. (A–B)

The contents list town officers and notaries elected, 1862 to date, giving date of election and expiration of term.

War Bounty and Funding Committee, Record of Proceedings, 1864–1866.

This is a record of bounty orders, giving name, amount, and date.

Record of Bureau County Soldiers, Book No. 1, 1861–1865.

The contents include: names of officers and enlisted men; rank, company and regiment, date enlisted or drafted; when mustered out or discharged, or cause and place of death.

War Bounty Papers, 1 f.b. (B13)

Militia Rolls, 1 f.b. (B14)

War Papers (miscellaneous), 3 f.b. (B15–B17)

Militia Roll Record, c. 1861–1862, 1 v.

Register of Soldiers, c. 1861–1865.

This is a cardboard book of 300 p., not labeled. The contents give name, rank, company, regiment, and residence.

Minutes of the Proceedings of the war committee appointed by the board of supervisors, 1862, labeled, "Record—War Committee."

The committee was in charge of providing bounties for soldiers and of raising money for the war bounty fund. It borrowed money at ten per cent for from one to three years, and issued bonds therefor.

Record of Marks and Brands, c. 1837–1903, 1 v.

Estray Book, 1837–date, 3 v.

Swamp Land Record, 1850–1870, 1 v., labeled, "Land Record."

The volume contains lists of swamp lands, 1850–1856, and records of sale, 1866–1870, giving date, purchaser, residence, price, amount, and interest.

Swamp Land Record, 1856–1860; 1870–1872, 1 v., labeled, "Land Record."

A record of lands sold.

Swamp Land Papers, 4 f.b.

Swamp Land Record, 1853 *et seq.*, 1 v.

This is a list of swamp lands in 1853, giving description and location, and kind of land. Page 76 and following contain drainage records, 1880–1909.

History of Bureau County.

On top of the shelves on the west side of the vault is a little black box

about 10 inches high, 10 inches long, and 4 inches deep, sealed, and labeled "History of Bureau Co. 1885 to be opened and republished 1976 N. Simons, Ptr."

County Clerk—Probate

PROBATE COURT RECORDS

Probate Court Record, 1837–date, 28 v.

The earlier volumes contain all probate records: wills, letters, appraisements, sale bills and inventories, claims, court orders, etc.

Probate Files, 1837–date, 260 f.b.

Index to Estates, 1837–date, 1 v.

DOCKETS AND FEE BOOKS

Probate Judges' Docket, 1900–date, 15 v.

Probate Estate Docket, 1859–date, 4 v. (A–D)

Guardians' and Conservators' Docket, 1874–date, 4 v. (A–D)

In form this docket is similar to an estate docket. It gives names and ages of minors, names of their parents, name of guardian and amount of bond, dates of accounts and reports, and reference to record.

Probate Judgment Docket, 1859–date, 6 v. (A–F); Index, 2 v.

The volumes contain a record of claims filed against estate and of the order of the court on them.

Probate Fee Book, 1853–date, 15 v.

RECORDS OF WILLS, BONDS, AND LETTERS

Record of Wills, 1837–date, 12 v. (A–L)

Volumes A and B (1837–1864) contain also wills, letters and bonds of executors.

Administrators' Record, 1859–date, 9 v. (A–I)

Executors' Record, 1858–date, 4 v. (A–D)

Guardians' Record, 1858–date, 5 v. (A–E)

INVENTORIES, APPRAISEMENTS, SALE BILLS, ETC.

Inventory Record, June, 1859–date, 11 v. (A–K)

Guardians' Inventory Record, 1872–date, 2 v. (A–B)

Partnership Inventory and Appraisement Record, 1876–date, 1 v.

Appraisement Record, 1859–date, 8 v. (A–H)

Sale Record, 1859–date, 7 v. (A–G)

Widows' Relinquishment and Selection Record, 1879–date, 2 v. (A–B)

Record of Insolvent Estates, 1886–date, 1 v.

Report Record, June, 1863–date, 25 v.

The contents are accounts of receipts and expenditures of administrators, executors, and guardians.

Administrators' and Executors' Accounts, December, 1857–January, 1860, 1 v.

Accounts of money received and expended.

Probate Ledger, 1860–date, 13 v.

Accounts of receipts and expenditures of money by agent of the estate are recorded.

Real Estate Sale Record, 1886–date, 1 v. (A)

This is a record of petitions to sell real estate to pay debts.

Guardians' Real Estate Sale Record, 1905–date, 1 v.

Miscellaneous Record, 1885–date, 5 v. (1–5)

The volumes contain miscellaneous probate and county matters, e.g., decree of court for sale of real estate, records of miscellaneous bonds and oaths of clerks and deputies, etc.

Clerk of the Circuit Court

CIRCUIT COURT RECORDS

Circuit Court Record: Chancery, Common Law, and Criminal, February, 1837–October, 1846, 1 v; Chancery, 1846–date, 31 v. (2–32); Common Law and Criminal, 1846–1870, 8 v. (2–9); Common Law, 1870–date, 11 v. (9–19); Criminal, 1870–date, 5 v. (1–5)

Circuit Court Files, 1837–date: Chancery, 155 f.b.; Common Law, 176 f.b.; Criminal, 45 f.b.

Naturalization Record, 1855–date, 10 v.

Declarations of intention, certificates of final papers, etc. are recorded.

Naturalization Papers, 1848–1900, 4 f.b.

DOCKETS AND FEE BOOKS

Judges' Docket, c. 1850–date.

Clerks' Docket, 1848–date.

Judgment and Execution Docket, 1838–date, 11 v.
Docket of Mechanics' Liens, 1887–date, 2 v.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Transcripts of Proceedings in Foreign Counties, 1892–date, 2 v. (1–2)

These are miscellaneous papers dealing with petitions for condemnation of lands for the Illinois–Michigan Canal [?], specifying the lands, etc.; appropriation by Congress for the Illinois and Mississippi canal, and record of expenditures; record of lands acquired as right of way, etc. There are also transcripts from court records of foreign counties.

Justice of the Peace Transcript Record, 1858–date, 4 v. (A–D)
States Attorneys' Report Record, 1872–date, 1 v.
Coroners' Inquests, 1840–date, 9 f.b.

Circuit Clerk—Recorder

DEED AND MORTGAGE RECORDS

Entry Book, July, 1837–date, 21 v.
"Records from Edwardsville Etc.," c. 1815–1833, 1 v.

The volume contains transcribed records from Madison, Fulton, Peoria, and other counties including powers of attorney, deeds, mortgages, etc., affecting property rights in Bureau county.

Deed Record, Putnam County, 1832–1840, 2 v.

The contents are transcripts from records of Putnam county of deeds, etc., affecting titles in Bureau county.

Deed Record, July, 1837–date, 163 v.
Mortgage Records, August, 1837–date, 80 v.
Release Record, 1866–date, 12 v. (A–L)
Plat Books, 1864–date, 7 v. (A–G)
Sectional Index, 1832–date, 4 v.
Index to Town Lots, 3 v. (1–3)
Chattel Mortgage Record, 1854–date, 38 v. (1–38)

Earlier chattel mortgages are in mortgage record.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Certificates of Levy and Sale Record, July, 1841–date, 4 v. (A–D)
Surveyors' Record, 1839–1855, 2 v.; 1852–1908, 2 v. (A–B)
Collectors' Bond Record, 1875–date, 4 v. (A–D)
Town Treasurers' Bond Record, 1890–date, 2 v.

Soldiers' Discharge Record, 1865–1893, 1 v.
Stallion Register, 1910–date, 1 v.; Renewals, 1911–date, 1 v.
Record of Receipts and Expenditures, 1892–date, 5 v.
School Land Record, 1831–1853, 1 v.

The volume contains a record of school lands giving location and de scription thereof, plats, and records of sale.

CALHOUN COUNTY[1]

Calhoun county was set off from Pike in 1825; the county seat is Hardin. The public offices are in two old brick buildings and a stone jail, set close to each other but apart from other buildings. The offices of the county and circuit clerks are in a small two-room brick building with cement floor. It is heated by stoves, but seems fairly safe, as there is little in it to burn. A few of the older records are in the jail attic.

County Clerk

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' AND SUPERVISORS' RECORDS

County Commissioners' Court Record, 1825–1854, 3 v.; 1854–1870, 1 v. (D); 1871–1884, 1 v. (E); 1884–1896, 1 v. (M); 1896–1907, 1 v. (N); 1907–date, 1 v. (O)

County Commissioners' Papers, 1870–c. 1900, in jail attic.

County Commissioners' Papers, 1877–date, 16 f.b.

Road Plat Record, 1858, 1 v.; 1874–1879, 1 v.

Record of County Orders, 1870–date, 2 v.; 1882–1900, 1 v.

Register of County Orders for Birth and Death Reports, 1910–date, 1 v.

COUNTY COURT RECORDS

County Court Record, 1872–date, 1 v.

Index to Court Records (full form), 1872–date, 1 v. each for plaintiff and defendant.

County Court Files, 1872–1885, in jail attic, in cupboard; c. 1885–date.

Naturalization Record: Declaration of Intention, 1866–1902, 1 v.; Final Certificate, 1868–1902, 1 v.; Minors', 1867–1906, 1 v.

Register of Jurors, 1895–date, 1 v.

Insanity Record, 1877–1896, 1 v.

Records of petition and trial are given.

[1] Examined March, 1914.

Lunacy Commission Record, 1908–1910, 1 v.; Lunacy Jury Trial Record, 1909–date, 1 v.

Insanity Files, 1893–date, 1 f.b.

Docket of Common Law and Criminal Cases, 1872–1892, 1 v.; 1893–date, 1 v.

Bar Docket, 1872–1888, 1 v.

Clerks' Docket, People's Causes, 1872–1888, 1 v.

Judgment Docket, 1872–date, 1 v.

Execution Docket, County Court, 1872–date, 1 v.

Judges' Insanity Docket, 1893–date, 1 v.

Name of party, statements of witnesses, date of order, and order of court are noted.

Fee Book: Common Law, 1872–1899, 1 v.; Criminal, 1876–1908, 1 v.; Common Law and Criminal, 1900–date, 1 v.

TAXATION RECORDS

School District Plats, current, 1 v.

List of Taxable Real Estate Assessed for 1880, with the Corrections for 1881–1883, 2 v., in jail attic.

Assessors' Books, c. 1870–date.

Collectors' Books, c. 1893–date, in office.

Books for 1846, 1851–1884 are in the jail attic along with old assessors' books for similar dates.

Board of Review Record, 1899–date, 1 v.

Board of Review Complaint Docket, 1899–date, 2 v.

List of Lands Sold for Taxes, 1840–1850, 1 v.

List of Lands on which Judgment is Prayed, 1852–1875, 1 v.

List of Lands on which Judgment is Awarded, 1853–1876, 1 v.

Tax Judgment Record, 1877–1880, 1 v.

Tax Sale and Redemption Record, 1877–1880, 1 v.

Tax Judgment, Sale, Redemption and Forfeiture Record, 1880–date, 2 v.

Record of Affidavits for Tax Deeds, 1854–date, 4 v.

RECORDS OF VITAL STATISTICS

Register of Marriages, 1825–1870, 2 v. (copied); 1878–date, 2 v.

The first two volumes, 1825–1850 and 1851–1870, give names of contracting parties, date of ceremony, and name of officiant. There are only

two entries after 1859. The first two volumes have been copied into another volume.

Record of Marriage Licenses, 1859–date, 4 v.

Register of Applications for Marriage License, 1896–date, 4 v. (1–4)

Register of Births, 1877–date, 4 v.

Register of Still Births, 1878–1903, 1 v.

After 1903 still births are recorded in birth records.

Register of Deaths, 1878–date, 4 v.

Inquest Proceedings, 1876–1910, 1 v.

Record of Physicians' Certificates, 1877–date, 1 v.

Register of Physicians and Accoucheurs, 1879–date, 1 v.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Record of Abstracts of Return of Local Option Elections, 1910–1913, 1 v.

Justice of the Peace Docket, 1836–1852, 1 v.; 1850–1854, 1 v.; 1847–1851, 1 v., in jail attic.

Record of Bonds of Justice of the Peace and Constables, 1897–date, 1 v.

Record of Officers, 1849–date, 2 v.

The earlier volume, 1849–1857, records only the day when officer was sworn in; the second volume, 1858–date, gives dates of election, commission and expiration of term, with particulars of bond and sureties.

Estray Record, 1827–1894, 2 v.

Record of Ear Marks, 1825–1886, 2 v.

Township Plats, 1 v.

Record of Soldiers' Discharges, 1865–date, 1 v.

Calhoun County in Account with Charitable Institutions, 1880–1887, 1 v.

County Clerks' Account of Births and Deaths, 1902–date, 2 v.

Register of Fees, 1907–date, 1 v.

Miscellaneous papers in jail attic: affidavits for tax deeds, tax levies; birth and marriage returns, etc.; bonds of justice of the peace and county officers; special returns of school tax, 1870–1880; auditors' returns of collectors' credits; school tax assessments of the fifties and sixties.

Assessment Roll, Sny Island Levee, 1872, 1 v.; 1875, 1 v., in jail attic.

County Clerk—Probate

PROBATE COURT RECORDS

Probate Record, 1836–1864, 4 v.; 1851–1870, 1 v.; 1865–date, 8 v. (K–R)

Rough Court Record, 1843–1849, 1 v.

Claim Record, Adjustment Day, 1901–date, 1 v.

This is a record of the adjudication of claims with the order for their payment by classes.

Record of Claims Allowed after Adjustment Day, 1903–date, 1 v. (3)

Record of Claims on Estates, 1871–date, 1 v.

Probate Files, 1860–date; Index, 1 v.

The earlier files are too scattered and too poorly indexed to permit of an exact determination of their extent and dates.

DOCKETS AND FEE BOOKS

Probate Docket, 1858–1887, 4 v.

Probate Judges' Docket, 1887–date, 3 v. (1–3)

Estate Docket, 1848–1877, 1 v.

Probate Ledger, 1858–1912, 1 v.

There are 2 forms to a page.

Probate Judgment Docket, 1859–1902, 2 v. (A, 1)

The headings are name of claimant and estate, nature and amount of claim, summons and notice, and judgment of court.

Claim Docket, 1912–date, 1 v.

Record of Claims Allowed against Estates, 1851–1873, 1 v.

The contents show when claim was recorded, number, when filed, nature of claim, claimant, amount, and judgment of court.

Fee Book, 1864–1865, 1 v.

Fees Due from Estates, 1859–1866, 1 v.

Probate Fee Book, 1880–1911, 4 v.

Administrators' and Executors' Fee Book, 1911–date, 1 v. (D)

Guardians' and Conservators' Fee Book, 1911–date, 1 v. (A)

RECORD OF WILLS, BONDS, AND LETTERS

Record of Wills, 1870–date, 2 v.

This is a two-page record giving proof of death and of will, will, and (in earlier volume) executor's oath.

Record of Bonds, Oaths, Letters, and Wills, 1836–1848, 1 v.; 1850–1866, 1 v.

Executors' Record, 1870–date, 2 v.

The volume contains court record, bond, letters, and appraisers' warrant. A two-page form is used.

Administrators' Record, 1877–date, 2 v.

Conservators' Record, 1898–date, 1 v. (1)

Petition for appointment of conservator, trial, bond, and letters are recorded.

Record of Bonds and Letters of Guardians and Administrators, 1859–1878, 1 v.

Guardians' Record, 1877–date, 2 v.

Miscellaneous Bond Record, 1877–date, 3 v.

INVENTORIES, APPRAISEMENTS, SALE BILLS, ETC.

Inventories, Appraisements, Sale Bills, etc., 1850–1864, 3 v.

Inventory, Appraisement and Sale Bill Record, 1870–1894, 1 v.

Record of Inventories and Sale Bills, 1863–1876, 1 v. (A)

Inventory Record, 1880–1887, 1 v.; 1878–1911, 1 v.; 1910–date, 1 v.

Guardians' Inventory Record, 1886–date, 1 v.

Appraisement Record, 1875–date, 4 v.

The record notes warrant, widows' award, bill, and oath.

Sale Bill Record, 1836–1844, 1 v. (B); 1875–date, 3 v.

Sale Record, 1871–1910, 1 v.

Report Record, 1877–1882, 1 v.; 1884–1905, 2 v.

The first series contains reports of administrators, executors, and guardians; the second only those of administrators and executors.

Administrators' Report Record, 1895–date, 2 v.

Guardians' Report Record, 1892–date, 2 v.

Accounts of Guardians, 1878–1910, 1 v.

Administrators' Report and Petition for Discharge, 1880–1909, 1 v.

Final Settlement Decrees in the Case of Discharged Administrators, 1910–date, 1 v.

Widows' Relinquishment and Selection Record, 1882–1909, 1 v.

Widows' Selection Record, 1909–date, 1 v. (B)

Record of Discharge of Administrators, 1899–date, 1 v.

A record of court orders.

Record of Sale of Real Estate, 1883–date, 1 v.

The contents show petitions to sell, decree of court, and order for setting off of widow's share.

Guardians' and Conservators' Sale of Real Estate, 1895–date, 1 v.

The volume contains petition to sell real estate, notice to minors, copy of notice, court appearance, and decree.

Clerk of the Circuit Court

CIRCUIT COURT RECORDS

Circuit Court Record, 1825–1826 (contains also Bar Docket, 1827–1829, and Judgment Docket, 1829–1844), 1 v.; 1825–1839, 1 v.; 1839–1864, 2 v.; 1843–1866, 1 v.; Common Law, Chancery, and Criminal, 1866–1895, 2 v.; Common Law, Chancery, and Criminal, 1895–date, 1 v.

Chancery Record, 1866–date, 6 v.

Recognizance Record, 1902–1905, 1 v.

Parole Record, 1899–date, 1 v.

Tax Judgment Record, 1840–1851, 1 v.

Index to Court Records (full form), 1859–date, 2 v. each for plaintiff and defendant.

Court Files, c. 1865–date, 69 f.b.; Index, 2 v.

The cases are filed by number; there is nothing to show dates. Files for 1825–1865 are in a packing case in jail attic.

Naturalization Record, Final Papers, etc., 1849–1887, 3 v.; 1870–date, 2 v. (A–B)

DOCKETS AND FEE BOOKS

General Docket, 1887–date, 1 v. (A)

Judges' Docket, 1859–date, 9 v.

Bar Docket, Chancery, 1854–1858, 1 v.

The contents note number of case, contesting parties, action, court and term, names of attorneys on either side, and judgment.

Bar Docket, Chancery, 1878–1909, 2 v.

Clerks' Docket, 1862–date, 8 v.

Judgment Docket, 1846–1900, 3 v.

Execution Docket, 1825–1846, 2 v.; 1859–1903, 1 v.

Judgment and Execution Docket, 1900–date, 1 v.
Statement of Lien (docket of mechanics' liens), 1897–date, 1 v.
Fee Book, 1842–1852, 3 ms. v.; 1852–date, 13 v.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Masters' Reports, jury venires, etc., c. 1890 *et seq.*, in several f.b.
Executions, c. 1850 *et seq.*
Justice of the Peace Transcript Record, 1847–1871, 1 v., which also contains Sheriffs' Certificates of Levy, 1841–1872; 1857–date, 2 v.
Præcipe for Summons and Execution, 1870 *et seq.*, 1 v.
"Auditors' Sale," 1823–1833, 1 v.

This is a report of sales for taxes and contains date of sale, name of purchaser, description of land, number of acres offered and sold, amount of sale, to whom deeded, date of deed, by whom redeemed, and date of redemption.

School Commissioners' Sale Book (by survey), 1841–1854, and List of Swamp Lands, 1853–1872, in 1 v.

This is a record of purchases; it gives name of purchaser, residence, value per acre, and description of land.

School Commissioners' Record, 1841–1850, 1 v.

Petitions for sale, reports, surveys, etc. are recorded.

Justice of the Peace Docket, 1836–1852, 1 v.; 1850–1854, 1 v.; 1847–1851, 1 v.
Special Assessment Roll, Sny Island Levee, 1892–1893, 1 v.
Record of Jury Certificates, 1908–date, 1 v.

Term, number, order, payee, amount, for what, and date cancelled are the items noted.

Jury List, 1911–date, 1 v.
Justice of the Peace Docket, 1855–1865, 2 v.; 1896, 1 v.

Circuit Clerk—Recorder

DEED AND MORTGAGE RECORDS

Deed and Mortgage Entry Book, 1860–1872, 1 v.
Entry Book of Deeds (by survey), 1817–1851, 1 v.; 1825–date, 7 v.
Deed Record, 1825–date, 32 v. (A–Z, 2, 4, A^1–A^4)

There is one extra volume "Trust Deeds," 1875–1880, of which only a few pages are used.

Masters' Deed Record, 1893–date, 1 v. (A)
Record of Bond for Deed, 1896–date, 1 v.
Administrators' Deed, short form, 1893–date, 1 v.
Sheriffs' Tax Deed Record, 1870–1879; and Deeds on Executions, 1870–1909, in 1 v.
Mortgage Record, 1866–date, 14 v. (1–14)
Release Record, 1893–date, 2 v.
Plat Record, Roads and Town Plats, 1877 *et seq.*, 1 v.
Grantor and Grantee Indexes, 1 v. to Records A–M, 1867–date, 2 v. for each of the numbers "2"–"5."
Grantor Tract Index, 1 v.
Index to Marginal Releases and Assignments, 1907–date, 1 v.
Tract Index to Deeds, n.d., 1 v.
General Index to Villages (a tract index), 1908–date, 1 v.
General Tract Index, by townships (apparently complete).
Tract Index to Deeds recorded in Edwardsville, 1 v.
Chattel Mortgage Record, 1860-date, 10 v.

CERTIFICATES OF LEVY, SALE, AND REDEMPTION

Record of Sheriffs' Certificates of Purchase, 1898–1911, 1 v.
Record of Sheriffs' Certificates of Levy, Sale, and Redemption, 1871–1909, 1 v.
Record of Masters' Certificates of Redemption, 1895–date, 1 v.
Record of Masters' Certificates of Purchase, 1894–date, 1 v.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Miscellaneous Record, 1872–date, 4 v. (1–4)
Auditors' Report of Land Entries (by survey), 1818–1856, 1 v.
County Surveyors' Record of Surveys, 1886–1907, 2 v.
Record of Miscellaneous Instruments, 1850–1860, 1 v.
Record of Wills, 1906–date, 1 v.
Register of Stallion Certificates, 1910–date, 1 v.; Renewals, 1 v.

CARROLL COUNTY[1]

Carroll county was set off from Jo Daviess county in 1839; the county seat is Mt. Carroll. The courthouse is partly fireproof and the offices of the county and circuit clerks are supposed to be wholly so. They are equipped with modern steel furniture, steam heat, and electric lights.

County Clerk

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' AND SUPERVISORS' RECORDS

County Commissioners' Papers, 1839–1848, 1 f.b.

The papers include all county business, accounts paid, petitions for roads, etc., licenses, and reports of delinquent taxes by collector.

Supervisors' Record, December, 1849–date, 6 v. (A–F)

Board of Supervisors' Papers, 1849–date, 44 f.b.

County Clerks' Register of Blind Pensioners, 1904–date, 1 v.

Register of County Orders, 1872–date, 3 v. (1–3)

Register of Jurors, 1872–date, 1 v.

COUNTY COURT RECORDS

County Court Record, 1872–date: Common Law, 2 v. (1–2); Criminal, 2 v. (1–2)

County Court Record, Confessions, 1897–date, 2 v.

One volume contains confession in vacation, and the other confessions in term.

County Court Files (common law and criminal), 1872–date, 6 f.b.

Insanity Record, 1867–date, 1 v.

The record gives name of party, name of petitioner, date of hearing, verdict of jury, when committed, where, date of discharge, and remarks.

Insane and Conservators' Record, 1899–date, 1 v.

Naturalization Record, 1872–1906, 5 v.

Naturalization Papers, 1873–1906, 2 f.b.

Judges' Docket (common law and criminal), 1872–date, 1 v.

Judgment Docket, 1873–1908, 1 v. (A)

[1] Examined January, 1912.

Execution Docket, 1873–1908, 1 v. (A)
Judgment and Execution Docket, 1904–date, 1 v. (B)
Docket of Insanity Trials, 1893–date, 1 v. (1)
Fee Book, 1872–date, 2 v. (A–B)

TAXATION RECORDS

Statement of Assessment and Taxes, 1888–date, 1 v.
Abstract of Assessment and Taxes, 1872–1882, 1900–1906, 2 v.
Abstracts of Taxes, 1865–date, 5 f.b.
Certificates of Tax Levies, 1849–date, 8 f.b.
Land Entry Book, Auditor's Transcripts, c. 1841–1856, 1 v.
School Plats, 1848–1853, 1 v. (15 p.)

The volume also contains a record of marks and brands, 1840–1865, and 1873–1901.

School District Plats, 1866–1879, 1 v.
School and Road Plats, 1880–current, 1 v.
Assessors' Books, 1849–date.
Collectors' Books, 1849–date.
Railroad Tax Books, 1862–1870; 1871–1877, 2 v. (all roads); 1888–1903, 1 v.; 1904–date, v. 3 (C. M. & St. P.); v. 4 (C. B. & Q.)
Railroad Schedules of Values, 1862–date.

All but the schedules for the current year are tied up and labeled, and placed on top of filingboxes for lack of room.

Record of Proceedings of County Board of Review, 1899–1904, 1 v.
Abatement Lists, 1887–1901, 1 f.b.
Tax Judgment, Sale, Redemption, and Forfeiture Record, 1857–date, 7 v.
Record of Affidavits for Tax Deeds, 1897–date, 1 v.
Certificates of Sale and Affidavits for Tax Deeds, 1858–date, 1 f.b.

The older ones are placed on top of the shelves.

Treasurers' Accounts with County, 1872–date, 2 v.
Collectors' Accounts with County, 1872–date, 1 v.

RECORDS OF VITAL STATISTICS

Marriage Record, August, 1839–November, 1847, 1 v.

Three small paper-covered folios, 10 x 10 inches, are bound in one vol-

ume of 168 p. It contains copies of licenses issued and certificates of marriage, with dates. The volume is not labeled and is indexed by males; the index is in the record described below.

Marriage Record, December, 1847–December, 1865, 1 v., indexed by males.

The volume gives: date of license, names of parties; when married; and by whom. It contains 230 p. and is indexed by males; p. 150–202 contain index to the volume; p. 202 *et seq.* contain index to the preceding volume.

Marriage Register, December, 1865–November, 1911, 1 v. (B); Index, by male and female, 2 v.

Register of Marriages, January, 1878–date, 3 v.

Marriage Licenses and Affidavits, 1839–date, 23 f.b.

Register of Births, 1877–date, 5 v.; Index, 2 v.

Register of Deaths, 1877–date, 4 v.; Index, 1 v.

Birth and Death Returns, 1877–date (filed together), 8 f.b.

Certificates and Register of Dentists, 1889–date, 1 v.

Register of Physicians and Accoucheurs, 1877–date, 1 v.

Record of Physicians' Certificates, 1877–date, 2 v.

Architects' Record (record of licenses), 1898–1905, 1 v. (1)

Register of Architects, 1898–1905, 1 v.

The register lists name, residence, date of license, where recorded, etc.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Election Papers, 1839–date, 26 f.b.

The papers include poll books, tally sheets, and abstracts of votes.

Assessors' Bond Record, 1899–date, 1 v. (1)

Record of Justices of the Peace, 1839–1866, 1 v., in vault.

The headings are name, date of appointment, and date of resignation. The volume is 8 x 10 inches in size.

Register of County Officers, 1866–date, 1 v. (A)

Headings include: name; residence; office; date of election; date of bond; names of bondsmen; date of commission and of its expiration; and remarks.

Militia Record, c. 1861–1862, 1 v., without label.

Estray Record, 1862–date, 1 v. (B)

Register of Receipts and Expenditures, 1872–date, 4 v.

Swamp Land Record, 1854–1873, 1 v.

The record gives location and description of land; amount, value, and quality of land; date of sale and purchaser.

County Clerk—Probate

PROBATE COURT RECORDS

Probate Ledger, November, 1839–January, 1848, 1 v., indexed.

The contents include: wills, letters of administration, guardianship, etc.; bonds and oaths; sale bills, appraisements and inventories; claims against estates; and all other probate matter.

Probate Ledger, March, 1848–December, 1854, 1 v., indexed.

The ledger contains all probate records from March, 1848–May, 1850 (e.g., letters, oaths, bonds, proof of wills, etc.). It contains 135 p.; p. 136–389 contain only sale bills, inventories, and appraisement bills, May, 1850–December, 1854.

Probate Record, January, 1850–November, 1865, 1 v.

The contents include court records, letters, oaths, bonds, wills, etc.

Probate Record, December, 1865–date, 20 v.

The volumes are labeled "County Court Record," and contain a record of proceedings, e.g., probate of wills, appointment of administrators or guardians, adjustment of claims, orders calling for reports from administrators, etc., orders for inventories, petitions to sell real estate to pay debts, etc.

Probate Judgment Record of Claims, 5 v.

Decree Record, May, 1899–date, 1 v. (marked B & C)

Orders or decrees of court in regard to petitions, reports, etc. are recorded.

Probate Files, 1849–date (nos. 1–2422), 108 f.b.

Estate, guardian, adoption, insanity, and juvenile papers are all filed together.

Index to Estate Files, 1 v.

DOCKETS AND FEE BOOKS

Probate Judges' Docket, 1866–date, 19 v.

Name of estate, and of administrator or executor, action, date and decision of court are given.

Estate Docket, December, 1865–date, 3 v.

Probate Judgment Docket, 1860–date, 4 v. (A–D)

The contents include name of claimant and of estate, nature of claim, judgment of court, memoranda, etc.

Probate Judgment Docket Index (direct and indirect), 2 v.

Probate Fee Book, 1867–date, 7 v. (A–G)

RECORDS OF WILLS, BONDS, AND LETTERS

Record of Wills, 1865–date, 6 v. (A–F)

Administrators' Record, 1860–date, 3 v.

Letters, bonds, and oaths are recorded.

Executors' Record, 1860–date, 2 v. (A–B)

Guardians' Record, 1860–date, 3 v. (A, 1–2)

INVENTORIES, APPRAISEMENTS, SALE BILLS, ETC.

Inventory Record, 1865–date, 5 v. (A–E)

Guardians' Inventory Record, 1866–date, 2 v.

Appraisement and Sale Record, June, 1855–July, 1858, 1 v.

Appraisement Record, February, 1860–date, 6 v.

Sale Bill Record, 1861–date, 4 v. (A–D)

This is a record of the sale of both real and personal property.

Widows' Relinquishment and Selection Record, 1866–date, 4 v.

Accounts Probated, 1860–date, 2 v.

The contents include: date, name of claimant and of estate; reference to judgment record of claims; amount and class of claim.

Guardians' Report Record, 1892–date, 2 v.

Administrators' and Executors' Report Record, 1892–date, 3 v. (1–3)

Decree Record, February, 1866–May, 1868, 1 v. (A)

Decrees on petitions to sell real estate are recorded.

Miscellaneous Probate Record, 1864–date, 13 v.

Clerk of the Circuit Court

CIRCUIT COURT RECORDS

Chancery Record, April, 1852–date, 12 v.

From 1840 to 1852 these records were kept in the same volume with common law and criminal records.

Criminal Record, September, 1859–date, 4 v.

Prior to 1859 these were kept in the same volume with common law records, v. A–B.

Common Law Record, May, 1840–date, 8 v. (A–H)

Default Record, 1858–1884, 2 v.

Recognizance Record, September, 1857–June, 1884, 1 v. (A)

Index to Court Records, 1858–date, 2 v. each for plaintiff and defendant.

Circuit Court Files, 1837–date (nos. A 1–A 1074; 1–7324)

Common law, chancery, and criminal files are filed together and numbered in the same general series.

Naturalization Record, 1858–1898, 2 v. (1–2)

Naturalization Record, Minors and Soldiers, 1 v. (Soldiers, 1866–1888; Minors, 1867–1894)

Naturalization Papers, c. 1868–1894, 1 f.b.

DOCKETS AND FEE BOOKS

Judges' Docket, 1859–date, 17 v.

There are 16 v. (A–P) up to 1909; since that date a loose-leaf transfer docket has been used.

Clerks' Entry Docket, 1859–date, cases no. 1–7328, 5 v. (A–E)

The headings are: general number of case; names of attorneys; names of parties; kind of action; date commenced; and order of court. The old case papers prior to 1860 are numbered A 1–A 1073 and are indexed by plaintiffs and defendants in "Index to Chancery & Civil Suits Prior to Clerks Entry Docket A, 1860."

Bar Docket, c. 1855–1870, 5 v.

Clerks' Docket, October, 1839–May, 1857, 1 v. (6 x 15 inches)

Judgment Docket, May, 1840–November, 1886, 4 v.

Execution Docket, May, 1852–1891, 2 v.

Judgment and Execution Docket, December, 1886–date, 2 v.

Executions, c. 1840–date, 3 f.b.

Lien Docket (docket of mechanics' liens), January, 1889–date, 1 v. (A)

Mechanics' Liens, 1890–date, 2 f.b.

Fee Book, October, 1846–date, 18 v. (A–R)

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Circuit Court Bond Record, 1904–date, 1 v. (1)

Bonds of receivers and trustees are recorded.

Register of Jurors and Jury Certificates, 1861–date, 2 v. (A–B)

The volumes register: number of certificate; names of jurors; date; number of days served, etc.; amount of order; signature.

Transcript Record, 1847–date, 4 v. (A–D)

States Attorneys' Report Record, 1872–date, 1 v.

Miscellaneous Record, 1871–date, 7 v.

Coroners' Inquests, 1885–1905, 3 f.b.

School Commissioners' Record Book, 1844–1867, 1 v., indexed.

The volume is "For the purpose of recording petitions, plats, certificates, affidavits, etc., etc., in relation to the sale of common school lands in said county." It is in the circuit clerk's vault.

Circuit Clerk—Recorder

DEED AND MORTGAGE RECORDS

Entry Book, 1854–date, 10 v. (1–10)

Deed Record, May, 1837–date, 85 v.

It contains mortgages earlier than 1854.

Mortgage Record, 1854–date, 82 v.

Chattel mortgages are kept in same series with real estate mortgages, and till 1875 in the same volumes.

Plat Book, 1868–date, 2 v.

Railroad Plat Book, 1 v.

Index to Mortgages, 1874–date, 4 v. each for grantor and grantee.

Before 1854 mortgages were indexed with deeds.

General Index, 1837–date, 9 v. each for grantor and grantee.

This is an index to deeds, releases, liens, mortgages, bonds, etc.

Index to Chattel Mortgages, 1902–date, 1 v. each for mortgagor and mortgagee.

Prior to 1902 chattel mortgages were indexed in the mortgage index described above.

"Numerical Index" (tract index): Land, 12 v.; Town Lots, 7 v.

CERTIFICATES OF LEVY, SALE, AND REDEMPTION

Record of Certificates of Levy and Sale, December, 1856–October, 1897, 1 v. (A)

These are now recorded in the miscellaneous record.

Record of Certificates of Redemption, 1862–1905, 1 v. (A)

These are now recorded in miscellaneous record.

Sheriffs' and Masters' Certificates of Levy, Sale, and Redemption, 1840–1894, 2 f.b.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Land Entries, c. 1840–1855, 1 v.

The volume lists date of entry; name of purchaser; description; and number of acres.

Entries of Conveyances, 1872–1873: Lands, 1 v.; Lots, 1 v.
County Surveyors' Record, 1842–date, 7 v. (A–G)
Index to Surveys and Plats, 1 v.
Township Plat Book, 1 v.

A description of the location of corners of sections and quarter sections in each township is given.

Collectors' Bond Record, 1867–date, 3 v. (1–3)
Record of Stallion Certificates, 1910–date, 1 v.; Renewals, 1911–date, 1 v.
Record of Receipts and Expenditures, 1873–date, 3 v.
Affidavit Record, 1905–date, 1 v. (1)

CASS COUNTY[1]

Cass county was set off from Morgan in 1837, and assigned an additional strip of Morgan's territory in 1845; the county seat is Virginia. The greater part of the records and files of both county and circuit clerks are in large vaults that apparently are fireproof. A few gaps in the records may possibly be accounted for by the fact that for many years Virginia and Beardstown contended for the honor of county seat. The story, somewhat apocryphal, is told that on one occasion, in 1874, the records were carried away from Beardstown by stealth and a battle waged with pursuers. In the course of it the records are said to have suffered some injury!

County Clerk

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' AND SUPERVISORS' RECORDS

County Commissioners' and Supervisors' Record, 1837–date, v. A–G, 1–4.

Minute Books of the County Board, 1882–date, 4 v.

Record of Warrants, 1874–date, 5 v.

COUNTY COURT RECORDS

County Court Record, 1872–date, 3 v. (1–3)

County Court Files (criminal and common law), 1872–date, 24 f.b.

Insanity Record, 1888–date, 2 v. (C–D)

Insane and Conservators' Record, 1877–date, 2 v. (A–B)

Naturalization Record: Final Papers, 1860–1900, 1 v. (A); Minors, 1860–1902, 1 v.; Declaration of Intention, 1860–1900, 1 v. (A); Soldiers, 1865, 1 v.; 1905, 1 v. (B)

Drainage Record, 1883–date, 2 v.

Judges' Docket, 1870–date, 2 v.

Judgment Docket, 1872–date, 1 v.

Execution Docket, 1873–date, 2 v.

Fee Book, 1872–date, 2 v. (1–2)

[1] Examined July, 1912; reëxamined July, 1915.

TAXATION RECORDS

Assessors' Books, 1845–date.
Collectors' Books, 1850–date.
Railroad Tax Book, 1878–date, 2 v.
Complaint Docket, 1899–date, 1 v.
Delinquent Land Tax Record, 1840–1859, 2 v.
Back Tax Record, c. 1877–1880, 1 v.
Tax Judgment Record, 1861–1880, 3 v.
Tax Sale Record, 1841–1849, 1 v.; 1861–1872, 1 v.
Tax Sale and Redemption Record, 1873–1879, 1 v.
Record of Forfeited Lands, 1873–1880, 1 v.
Tax Judgment, Sale, Redemption and Forfeiture Record, 1880–date, 4 v.
Record of Affidavits for Tax Deeds, 1874–1886, 1 v.; 1888–1911, 1 v.

Since 1911 these are in Miscellaneous Record.

County Collectors' Statement of Accounts for Taxes, 1896–date, 1 v.

RECORDS OF VITAL STATISTICS

Marriage Record, 1837–date, 7 v. (A–G)
Register of Marriages, 1877–date, 2 v. (1–2)

Board of health form.

Record of Applications for Marriage License, 1905–date, 3 v.
Birth and Death Record, 1871, 1 v.
Register of Births, 1878–date, 4 v. (1–4)
Register of Deaths, 1878–date, 4 v.
Record of Physicians' Certificates, 1878–date, 1 v. (A)
Register of Physicians and Accoucheurs, 1878–date, 1 v. (A)

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Estray Record, 1869–1905, 1 v.
Miscellaneous Record, 1869–date, 2 v.

These contain miscellaneous county clerks' and probate records.

Lists of Magistrates' Commissions, 1838–1899, 2 v.
List of Officers, 1910–date, 1 v.
Official Bond Record, 1877–date, 2 v.

The volumes contain bonds for justice of the peace, coroner, sheriff, county clerk, etc.

Miscellaneous Files, 1837–date, 1 f.b.
These contain election returns, bonds, etc.

Record of Receipts and Expenditures, 1874–date, 1 v.

County Clerk—Probate

PROBATE COURT RECORDS

Probate Record, 1837–date, 20 v.
The current record is loose leaf.

Probate Order Book, 1837–1843, 1 v.
This contains inventories, appraisements, sale bills, and court orders.

Probate Files, 1857–date, 104 f.b.

Probate Claim and Judgment Docket, 1887–date, 2 v. (1–2)

Probate Court Docket, 1845–date, 11 v. (A–K)

Probate Fee Book, 1859–1866, 1 v.; 1873–date, 7 v. (A–G)

Estate Fee Book, 1910–date, 2 v.

RECORDS OF WILLS, BONDS, AND LETTERS

Record of Wills, 1867–1898, 2 v.

Will and Executors' Record, 1898–date, 4 v.

Record of Administrators' and Guardians' Bonds and Letters, 1856–1866, 1 v.

Administrators' Record, 1866–date, 4 v.

Executors' Record, 1872–date, 3 v.

Guardians' Record, 1844–1849, 1 v.; 1867–date, 3 v.

Record of Administrator, will annexed, 1899–date, 1 v.

Record of Administrator, de bonis non, 1879–date, 1 v.

INVENTORIES, APPRAISEMENTS, SALE BILLS, ETC.

Inventory, Appraisement, and Sale Bill Record, 1856–1866, 1 v.; 1869–1879, 1 v.

Inventory of Real Estate, 1876–date, 3 v. (4–6)

Guardians' Inventory Record, 1872–date, 2 v.

Appraisement Record, 1874–date, 4 v.

Sale Record, Personal Property, 1874–date, 2 v.

Administrators' Report Record, 1879–date, 1 v.

Guardians' Report Record, 1877–date, 2 v.

Final Report Record, 1883–date, 5 v. (C–G)

Record of Certificates of Discharge in Probate, 1880–date, 2 v.
Sale Record, Real Estate, 1907–date, 1 v.
Widows' Relinquishment and Selection Record, 1887–date, 1 v.

Clerk of the Circuit Court

CIRCUIT COURT RECORDS

Circuit Court Record, 1837–date.

There are two v. "A" and "B," 1837–1852, common law, chancery, and criminal; v. "C," 1852, common law and criminal; v. "D," 1853, chancery. After 1853 common law and criminal are in series E–L, 1; and chancery in series E–S, 1.

Record of Judgment by Confession, 1896–date, 1 v.
Circuit Court Files: Common Law and Criminal, 1839–date, 90 f.b.; Chancery, 1841–date, 96 f.b.
Naturalization Record, 1859–1894, 3 v.

DOCKETS AND FEE BOOKS, ETC.

Judges' Docket, 1844–1848, 1 v.; 1858–date, 14 v. (B–O)
Judgment Docket, 1839–1856, 1 v.; 1857–date, 3 v. (A–C)
Execution Docket, 1838–date, 2 v.
Lien and Satisfaction Docket (docket of mechanics' liens), 1888–date, 1 v.
Fee Book, 1846–date, 15 v. (A–O)
Justice of the Peace Transcript Record, 1846–date, 4 v. (1–4)

Circuit Clerk—Recorder

DEED AND MORTGAGE RECORDS

Entry Book, 1861–date, 7 v.
Transcript Record of Deeds, 1827–1837, 4 v.
Deed Record, 1837–date, 77 v. (A–Z, 27–77)
Mortgage Record, 1837–date, 39 v. (A–Z, 27–39)
Release Record, 1874–date, 13 v.
Index to Deeds, 4 v. each for grantor and grantee.
Index to Mortgages and Releases.
Tract Index to Lands and Lots, 8 v.
Chattel Mortgage Record, 1870–date, 24 v. (A–X)
Index to Chattel Mortgages, 1 v.

The volume contains both mortgagee and mortgagor.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Record of Sheriffs' and Masters' Certificates, 1846–date, 1 v.
Swamp Land Record, 1 v.
Record of Town Treasurers' Bonds, 1890–date, 1 v.
Surveyors' Record, 1884–date, 1 v.
Record of Soldiers' Discharges, 1865–date, 1 v.
Stallion Register, 1910–date, 1 v.; Renewals, 2 v.
Transcript Record, 1847 *et seq.*, 1 v.
This contains school lands, petitions for sale, etc.

CHAMPAIGN COUNTY[1]

The county was set off in 1833 from Vermilion; the county seat is Urbana. The courthouse is a fireproof building located in a square and it is equipped with steam heat, electric light, and fireproof vaults. The basement, in which certain old records are kept, is dry.

County Clerk

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' AND SUPERVISORS' RECORDS

County Commissioners' Court Record: "County Court Record A," 1833–1852, 1 v. (402 p.); "Record of Roads 2," 1852–1859, 1 v. (618 p.); "Order Book 3," 1859–1860, 1 v.

Supervisors' Records, 1860–date, 7 v.

Board of Supervisors Papers, 1860–date.

The papers, 1860–1897, are in basement packed away in two dry goods boxes. Those from 1898–date fill 25 filingboxes in the vault.

"Minutes of County Board," 1883–date, 4 v. (1–4)

The contents include minutes of the proceedings of the board. Volume 1 (1883–1898) is in the basement.

Register of County Orders, 1861–1873, 1896–date, 5 v.

The headings are: number and date of order, amount and to whom issued and for what purpose. The first two volumes are in the basement.

"List of County Orders Issued and not Taken Up," 1867–1880, 1 v. (unbound), in basement.

"List of County Orders Canceled by Funding, under a Resolution of the Board of Supervisors, adopted September, 1864," 1 v., in basement.

Original papers pertaining to the building of courthouse and jail, 1 f.b.

"Jury Lists," 1872–date, 2 v. (A–B)

In south end of basement, box marked no. 3, there is a bundle of the original lists, 1833–1874; and also an old jury book with names of jurors, 1875–1885.

[1] Examined October, 1911.

Indentures, 1840–1884, 1 f.b.

This box also contains abstracts of votes for 1866 and 1876. The abstract for 1866 gives votes by towns for and against the offer of a land bonus to secure the Agricultural College.

COUNTY COURT RECORDS

County Court Record (common law), 1872–date, 7 v. (A–G)

"County Court Record of Confessions," 1905–date, 1 v., indexed.

Index to Court Records, 1872–date, 2 v. each for plaintiff and defendant.

County Court Files, 1872–date: Common Law (cases nos. 1–3850), 66 f.b.; Criminal (cases nos. 1–1983), 25 f.b.

Special Assessment Record, 1892–1911, 4 v.

Volume 1 is labeled "Pavement Record"; v. 2–4, "Special Assessment Record."

Kankakee Drainage District, Assessment Roll.

The date of the volume is about 1884; 4 of the 23 p. are blank. This is an assessment of the value of the lands taken or damaged by canal.

Drainage Record, 1885–1907, 8 v., indexed.

Binder's title is: "Drainage Record." It contains a record of drainage districts, plats, petitions, assessment lists, etc. The original papers, 1885–date, are in a case in clerk's office.

Adoption Papers, 1871–date, 3 f.b.

The papers contain original petitions to court for adoption, decree of court, writs, parents' release of child, etc.

Dependent Children (cases nos. 1–271), 1897–date, 3 f.b.

Original petitions for commitment to state asylum, courts' orders, etc. are filed.

Insanity Record, 1893–date, 2 v.

Insanity Files (cases nos. 1–711), 1864–date, 9 f.b.

The papers include petitions to court for appointment of jury to determine sanity, venire of jury and verdict, writs, etc.

Index to Insanity and Adoption Cases, 1864–date, 1 v.

"Hospital Reports," 1901–date, 1 f.b.

These are reports of progress of persons in the insane asylum, giving names of inmates, when committed to institution, and present condition, physical and mental.

Naturalization Record, Discharged Soldiers, 1886–1889, 1 v. (A)

"Naturalization Record—Minors—A," 1866–1873, 1 v.

Naturalization Record, Adults, 1860–1906, 3 v. (A–C)

Miscellaneous Record of County Court, 1903–date, 1 v.

The record includes petitions of various sorts, proofs of heirship, stallion licenses, etc.

COUNTY COURT DOCKETS AND FEE BOOKS

Judges' Docket, 1874–date, 7 v.

There is one loose-leaf docket for both judge and clerk after 1909.

Clerks' Docket, 1892–1909, 4 v.

Judgment and Execution Docket, 1872–date, 6 v. (1–6)

"Judges' Petition Docket," June, 1895–November, 1906, 1 v. (A)

The contents include various petitions, e.g., for probate of will, for special assessment for local improvement, for order to sell real estate for debts, etc. Headings are: parties to action; kind of action; and order of court.

Juvenile Court Entry Book, 1897–date, 1 v.

The headings are petition, file, and order.

Fee Book, 1872–date, 7 v. (1–7)

Miscellaneous Fee Book, 2 v. (A–B)

TAXATION RECORDS

"Abstract of Assessment and Taxes," 1874–date, 1 v.

The volume shows footings of the several assessment books of real estate and town lots. In the front of the second volume is a folio giving agricultural statistics for the county, 1887.

Statement and Assessment of Taxes, 1860–1873, 1 v.; 1873–date, 1 v.

Certificates of Taxes Levied, etc., 1875–1897.

These are in a box in the basement, at the north end of the east room; current tax certificates are in the vault.

"Original Entry Book, " 1 v.; copy of above, 1 v.

The volume gives date of entry, name of purchaser, and description of all lands in county arranged by townships and sections.

Auditors' List of Taxable Lands in Champaign County, 1827–1884.

List of purchasers, date of sale, amount and location of land, and value are given. The papers are in the basement in box 3 which also contains list of Illinois Central railroad lands sold in the county.

Plat Book of Champaign County, 1893, 1 v.

School Plats, 1874, 1 v.

School Tax Levies, 1858–1869.

Amount of tax levy, names of people in school district and amount of assessment on each are given. The papers are in box 3 at south end of the basement.

Road Tax Lists, 1845–date.

The lists give names of tax payers in the road district, amount and value of lands and amount of road taxes. The earlier ones, dating back to 1845, are in box 3 in southeast corner of basement. Those from 1899–date are filed in clerk's office in 9 filingboxes.

List of taxpayers in county, 1902, 1 v., indexed.

List of taxable lands and town lots, 1855, 1 v.

The binder's title is "Assessors Lands & Town Lots." Name of owner, location of property and value per acre are listed.

Assessors' Books, 1899–date.

Collectors' Books, 1860–date.

Railroad Tax Book, 1877–date, 3 v.

Delinquent Tax Lists, 1881–1906, 49 v.

The volumes give name of owner of land, amount, location, and value of land, and the amount of taxes.

Delinquent Tax Book, 1873–date, 6 v.

All of these are in the treasurers' office except v. F (1895–1901) which is in the basement.

"Back Tax Record," 1871–1885, v. 1, in basement; v. 2–3, in office.

The headings are name of owner, location of land, and tax due.

Tax Judgment Record, 1858–May, 1880, 10 v.

Record of Lands Sold for Taxes, 1856–date, 39 v. (A–Z, 1–13)

"Record of Forfeited Lands," 1873–date, 2 v.

Original Certificates of Sale of Land for Taxes, and Affidavits for Deed by Purchaser, 1858–date, 6 f.b.

Tax Objections, 1 f.b.

Record of Affidavits for Tax Deeds, 1857–date, 3 v.

Receipts by County Collectors, 1872–1882, 1 v.

Collectors' Accounts, 1865–date, 8 v.

Volumes B–I are in the treasurers' office, except v. F, which is in the basement.

Statement of County Collector and Treasurer, 1905–1906, 1 f.b.

RECORDS OF VITAL STATISTICS

Marriage Record, 1833–date, 11 v. (A, 2–5, 1–6), indexed to 1864.

Indexes, 1864–date, 2 v. each for male and female.

Record of Applications for Marriage License, 1876–1889, 10 v.; 1893–date, 14 v.

Original Marriage Licenses, 1835–date, 33 f.b.

Register of Births, January, 1878–date, 11 v.

Register of Still Births, 1880–1900, 1 v.

Still births are now recorded in the birth register.

Register of Deaths, 1878–date, 5 v.

Original Birth Reports, 1902–date, 7 f.b.

Death Reports, 1898–date, 5 f.b.

Register of Physicians, Dentists, and Veterinary Surgeons, 1905–date, 1 v. (B)

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Abstract of Votes, 1896–1907, 1 f.b.

Railroad Election Poll Books.

These elections were held to vote on the question of subscribing to capital stock of the Monticello railroad, and the Danville, Urbana, Bloomington and Pekin railroad. Elections took place as follows: East Bend, 1867; Urbana, 1877; Hensley, 1867; Kerr, 1870; Compromise, 1870; Somer, 1870. These books are on north side of vault in filingbox marked "Railroad Elections."

Township Poll Books for Election of School Trustees, c. 1859–1905.

These are in an old case at the north end of the east room in the basement.

Village Organization Election Records, c. 1872–date, 1 f.b.

The records include: original petitions (signed) for election on question of incorporation of village; order of court for election; canvass of returns by judge; poll books, etc.; also petitions of Champaign (city) for election on question of commission government. The papers are filed by village.

Patent Record, 1866–1872, 1 v. (A)

Assessors' Bond Record, 1899–date, 2 v. (1–2)

Township School Treasurers' Bond Record, 1890–date, 1 v.

"Justices & Constables Bond Record," 1881–date, 2 v. (A–B)

Register of Commissions, 1855–date, 4 v.

The register includes the commissions of justices of the peace, assessors, town clerks, county officials, etc.

Register of Notary Publics, 1876–date.

Militia Roll Record, 1861, 1 v. (A)

Militia Rolls, 1861–1862.

These give the names of volunteers, their rank and company, and date of enlistment, bounty paid, etc. They are in box 3, at the south end of the basement.

Bounty Certificates granted for service in Civil War, and receipts for same, 1 v.

This is a book about six by eight inches, found in box at south end of east room in basement. The original certificates are in same box. The book gives name of soldier, rank, company, and regiment, date of enlistment, date of discharge or death, and signature of person to whom certificate was delivered.

Register of Soldiers of the War of the Rebellion, 1 v.

Name and amount of bounty received are registered.

Estray Record, 1833–date, 4 v.

The records, 1833–1864 (2 v.) are in basement. Those from 1864–date are in vault.

Estray Papers, 1833–1875.

In box 3 at the south end of the basement.

Cash Book, 1899–date, 2 v.

Register of Sparrow Orders, 1891–1902, 1 v.

The register includes amount of bounty, number of sparrows killed, where killed, and date.

Miscellaneous School Papers in old case at north end of basement.

(1) Papers relative to sale of school lands; (2) Magistrates' fines (reports of); (3) Minutes of teachers' institutes, 1896–1902; (4) Teachers' monthly reports to county commissioners, 1864.

County Superintendents' Record, 1872–1902, 1 v.

It gives names of teachers, dates of certificates, and grades made on examination.

Township School Record, 1885–1902.

The earlier reports are kept in composition books; but from 1893–1902 they are kept in a "Record" for that purpose. These reports made to the superintendent give name, age, and standing of pupils in school.

"March 1836. Book for Recording the School Lands in Champaign County, State of Illinois. By John Mead, School Commissioner."

This is an old yellow-back book without label; it contains applications for sale of lands, plats and valuation of land, etc., 1836–1873.

"Sale Book For the School Lands of Sixteenth Section in Champaign [County] Illinois. As made by John Mead, School Commissioner," 1836–1873.

Date of sale, name and residence of purchaser, description and value of land are recorded.

County School Commissioners' Account Book, 1842–1859, 1 v.

The volume is labeled "Daybook, A." and is in the old case at the north end of the basement.

"Township Treasurers' Reports and Township Superintendents' Reports."

From about 1850 down to the late nineties, they give number of children of school age and their names; number of schools and condition of same; number of teachers and their salaries; amount of money received from treasury for schools, etc.; number of volumes in library, etc. There are earlier reports dating back to 1840, but they usually give only names of school children in district. These papers are stored in the old case at north end of basement, in drawers and pigeonholes.

Swamp Land Record, 1853–1873, 2 v.

Binder's title on v. 1 is: "Swamp Land Record"; v. 2 is labeled "Swamp Lands—Tract Book." Names of purchasers and location of tract are recorded.

"Justices' Dockets," 1877–date, c. 15 v.

Sadorus (Illinois) Village Book, May, 1894–June, 1895, 1 v.

This is a volume labeled "Village Book" containing record of village meetings.

"Register—Soldiers' Reunion," Champaign County, October, 1879, 1 v.

The register includes name, residence, company, etc. of veterans. A few clippings from local papers are pasted in.

County Clerk—Probate

PROBATE COURT RECORDS

Probate Court Record, 1839–date, 28 v.

Minute Book of Probate Court, 1873–date, 8 v.

Volumes for 1873–1898 are in the basement, the volume for 1873–1876 being marked "Journal." These minutes give only the names of the parties to action, kind of action, and statement of decision with reference in margin to entry in regular court records.

Probate Judgment Record, 1866–1900, 2 v. (A-B)

Estate Files, 1833–date, 172 f.b.

Index to Estate Files, 1833–date, 1 v.

Guardianship Files, 1834–date, 56 f.b.

Index to Guardians' Files, 1834–date, 1 v.

Entry Book to Estates, 1833–date, 1 v.

The volume contains name of estate; name of administrator or executor; date of letters of administration, etc.; and number of estate.

Entry Book for Guardians and Conservators, 1833–date, 1 v.

This volume is similar to entry book to estates.

DOCKETS AND FEE BOOKS

Probate Court Docket, 1852–1875, 1 v.

Binder's title is: "Probate Court Docket, A." Contents include: name of deceased and administrator; date of letters; names of sureties; amount of bond; names of widow and heirs, etc.

Judges' Miscellaneous Docket, 1867–1910, 13 v. (A–M)

Volumes A–D are in basement; v. E is in sheriff's vault; v. F–M are in county clerk's vault. The volumes are loose leaf after 1910.

Guardians' Docket, 1869–1873, 1 v. (A)

Probate Judgment Docket, 1859–date, 9 v. (A–I)

The contents include number of case; names of parties; amount of claim against estate; when filed; and judgment of court.

Probate Judgment Docket Index, 2 v. (A–B), to 1888.

Claim Entry Book Index, 1888–date, 1 v.

The index lists number of claim; name of claimant and of the estate; date and amount of claim; and reference to the records.

Probate Fee Book, 1858–date, 9 v. (A–I)

Guardians' Fee Book, February, 1867–date, 4 v. (A–D)

RECORDS OF WILLS, BONDS, AND LETTERS

"Complete Record of Wills, Testaments and Codicils, Letters Testamentary and of Administration, Bonds, etc.," August 5, 1832–March 4, 1851, 1 v., 212 p.

Record of Wills, 1864–date, 5 v. (3–7)

Wills from 1851–1864 are in "Record of Administrators' Bonds, Wills, Letters of Administration, etc."

"Record of Administrators' Bonds, Wills, Letters of Administration, etc.," 1851–1865, 1 v.

Administrators' Record, 1865–date, 10 v. (C–H, 1–4)

Executors' Record, 1868–date, 6 v. (A–F)

Guardians' Record, 1858–date, 7 v. (A–G)

Record of Miscellaneous Bonds and Letters, 1881–date, 3 v. (A–C)
These include conservators' bonds and letters, bonds of administrators de bonis non, etc.

Record of Letters of Administration with Will Annexed, 1881–date, 1 v.

INVENTORIES, APPRAISEMENTS, SALE BILLS, ETC.

Record of Inventories, 1859–date, 12 v.

Guardians' Inventory Record, 1872–date, 2 v.

Appraisement Record, 1859–date, 8 v. (A–H)

Sale Record, Public Sale, March, 1859–date, 3 v. (A–C)

Sale Record, Private Sale, 1880–date, 2 v. (A–B)

Probate Court Ledger, 1850–date, 19 v. (1, A–R)
The volumes contain itemized statements of receipts and expenditures of executors, administrators, and guardians.

Widows' Relinquishment and Selection Record, 1909–date, 1 v.

Record of Proceedings to Sell Real Estate to Pay Debts, September, 1868–date, 3 v.

Clerk of the Circuit Court

CIRCUIT COURT RECORDS

Circuit Court Record, 1833–date, 64 v.

Decree Record, 1873–date, 16 v. (1–16)

Record of Orders of Discharge under Parole, 1897, 1 v.

Indexes to Court Records, 1857–date, 16 v.; also 1 v. in basement.

Circuit Court Files: Miscellaneous, 1837–1857, 8 f.b.; Common Law, 1857–1907, 268 f.b.; Criminal, 1838–1908, 67 f.b.; Chancery, 1835–January, 1909, 198 f.b.
Current papers are in office.

Index to Old Files, 2 v.

Index to Criminal Cases, 1877–date, 1 v.

Naturalization Record, 1859–1906, 7 v.

DOCKETS AND FEE BOOKS

General Docket, January–March, 1875, 1 v.

Judges' Docket, 1857–1909, 83 v.; 1909–date, current loose-leaf docket.

Judges' Docket of certificates of good moral character, 1889–date, 1 v.

Judgment and Execution Docket, 1835–date, 27 v.
Docket of Mechanics' Liens (cases nos. 1–291), 1887–date, 1 v.
Naturalization Docket, 1873–1906, 1 v.
Fee Book, 1857–date, 32 v. (1–32)
Justice of the Peace Transcript Record, 1867–date, 6 v.
Index to Transcripts of Justices of the Peace, 1862–date, 1 v.
Transcripts of Judgments from Justices of the Peace, 1862–1908, 20 f.b.

The later transcripts are in the office.

Record of Indictments, 1876–1894, 4 v.

The record includes name of defendant, charge, etc., and true bill signed by grand jury. Two of the volumes are in the basement.

Register of Circuit Clerk's Fees, 1873–1875, 1 v., unlabeled.

Circuit Clerk—Recorder

RECORDS OF DEEDS AND MORTGAGES

Entry Book, 1833–date, 22 v.
Deed Record, June, 1833–date, 176 v. (A–Z, 1–150)
Real Estate Mortgage Record, 1856–date, 180 v.
Plat Book, 1875–date, 3 v.
Index to Deeds, 1833–date, 26 v.
Index to Mortgages, 1836–date, 20 v.
Index to Releases, 1833–date, 2 v.
Index to Plats recorded in Deed Record, 1833–1875, 1 v.
Index to Cemetery Deeds, 1856–date, 1 v.
Chattel Mortgage Record, 1860–date, 69 v.

Volumes for 1860–1897 are in basement.

Chattel Mortgage Index, 1842–date, 4 v.
Miscellaneous Index, 1874–date, 1 v.

CERTIFICATES OF LEVY, SALE, AND REDEMPTION

Record of Certificates of Levy, 1859–date, 2 v.

An earlier volume is said to be missing.

Record of Certificates of Sale and Redemption, 1858–date, 8 v.
Index to Sheriffs' and Masters' Certificates, etc., 1857–1878, 1 v. (1)

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Record of United States Surveys, 1 v.

The binder's title is "Original Survey Record."

County Surveyors' Plat Book, 1872–date, 1 v.

The book contains plats and descriptions of land; it was found in the surveyors' office.

Soldiers' Discharge Record, 1861–1865, 1 v. (A)

The volume records name of soldier and company, when enlisted and term of enlistment, when discharged, where, and for what reason. It also gives place of birth of soldier and physical description and in many cases the names of battles in which he participated. Other records of soldiers' discharges are found in certificate records.

Town Collectors' Bond Record, 1872–1890, 1 v. (B); 1872–1897, 1 v. (C), in basement; 1898–date, 1 v. (D)

Stallion Record, 1910–date, 1 v.; Renewals, 1911–date, 1 v.

Certificates of stallions, containing pedigree, description, etc. are recorded.

"Miscellaneous Record," 1874–date, 11 v. (1–11)

The contents are miscellaneous—depositions, leases, contracts, certificates of power of attorney, copies of records of other counties, corporation charters, etc.

CHRISTIAN COUNTY[1]

The county was set off from Sangamon and Montgomery in 1830; it received additional territory from Shelby in 1839. Till 1840 it was called Dane county; the county seat is Taylorville. The courthouse and vaults are fireproof and equipped with modern fixtures; a few of its older records are in basement vaults.

County Clerk

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' AND SUPERVISORS' RECORDS

County Commissioners' and Supervisors' Record, 1839–1873, 3 v. (A–C); 1873–date, 8 v. (1–8)
Supervisors' Files, 1892–date, 80 f.b.
Plats of Roads, 1883–1885, 1 v.
Register of County Orders, 1839–date, 7 v. (A, 2–7)

COUNTY COURT RECORDS

County Court Record, 1872–date, 3 v. (1–3)
Recognizance Record, 1897–date, 1 v. (A)
Default Record, 1877–1881, 1 v.
County Court Files, 1872–date; Common Law, 10 f.b.; Criminal, 14 f.b.
Plaintiffs' and Defendants' Index, 2 v.
Voluntary Insolvency Record, 1878–1907, 2 v. (A–B)
Drainage Record, 1888–date, 1 v.
Insane and Conservators' Record, 1870–date, 2 v.
Insanity Record, 1893–1909, 1 v. (1)

Petition for trial of person alleged to be insane, finding of jury and order of court are recorded.

Naturalization Record, 1866–1906, 6 v.: Declaration of Intention, Final Certificate, Minors' and Soldiers' Record.
Judges' Docket, 1872–date, 4 v. (1–4)

[1] Examined July, 1912; reëxamined April, 1914.

Judgment Docket, 1859–date, 2 v. (1–2)
Execution Docket, 1861–date, 2 v. (1–2)
Judges' Docket of Insane, 1893–date, 3 v. (1–3)
County Court Fee Book, 1873–date: Common Law, 3 v. (1–3); Criminal, 3 v. (1–3)

TAXATION RECORDS

Record of Statement of Assessment, 1877–date, 1 v.
Original Land Entries, 1836–1850, 2 v.
Assessors' Books, 1849–date.
Collectors' Books, 1852–date.
Railroad Tax Book, 1873–date, 3 v. (1–3)
Telegraph Tax Book, 1885–1905, 2 v.
Record of Board of Review, 1899–date, 2 v. (1–2)
Board of Review Complaint Docket, 1899–date, 4 v. (1–4)
Tax Judgment Record, 1840–1880, 6 v.
Tax Judgment and Sale Record, 1850–1869, 1 v.
Tax Sale and Redemption Record, 1878–1880, 1 v.
Tax Sale Record, 1840–1854, 1 v.; 1870–1877, 1 v.
Tax Forfeiture Record, 1874–1878, 1 v.; 1879, 1 v.; 1884–1906, 2 v.
Tax Judgment, Sale, Redemption, and Forfeiture Record, 1880–date, 30 v.
Back Tax Record, 1872–1895, 3 v.
Record of Affidavit for Tax Deeds, 1872–1905, 2 v. (1–2)
"County Clerk's Statement in Account," 1882–date, 10 v.

RECORDS OF VITAL STATISTICS

Marriage Record, 1839–date, 4 v. (A–D)
The last two volumes are labeled "Marriage Register."

Marriage Register, 1878–date, 5 v. (1–5)
The last three volumes are labeled "Marriage Record."

Index to Marriage Register, 1867–date, 1 v.
Register of Births, 1878–date, 7 v. (A–G)
Register of Deaths, 1878–date, 4 v. (A–D)
Record of Physicians' Certificates, 1877–1907, 1 v.
Record of Physicians' and Dentists' Certificates, 1905–date, 1 v. (B)
Register of Physicians and Accoucheurs, 1877–1895, 1 v.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Patent Record, 1869–1873, 1 v. (A)

Estray Record, 1839–1866, 1 v.

Miscellaneous Record, 1839–1871, 1 v.

The volume contains a record of delinquent taxes on lands, judges' docket, 1861–1862, etc.

Miscellaneous Files, 1880–date, 72 f.b.

This is a miscellaneous collection of naturalization papers, executors' and administrators' bonds, assignments, marriage licenses, etc.

Justice of the Peace Dockets, 1853–1856, 1861–1868, 1869–1871, 1887–1895.

County Clerk—Probate

PROBATE COURT RECORDS

Probate Record, 1839–date, 24 v.

The first four volumes are designated by neither number nor letter; v. 5 is labeled "4," and with v. 6 the series is labeled "Probate Journal."

Probate Files, 1839–date, 168 f.b.

DOCKETS AND FEE BOOKS

Probate Judges' Docket, 1861–date, 17 v. (1–17)

Probate Estate Docket, 1860–date, 2 v. (A–B)

Probate Judgment Docket, 1860–1903, 4 v. (A–D)

Probate Fee Book, 1843–date, 11 v. (A–K)

RECORDS OF WILLS, BONDS, AND LETTERS

Record of Wills, 1849–date, 5 v. (1–5)

Administrators' Record, 1860–1879, 3 v. (A–C)

Administrators' and Executors' Record, 1879–date, 4 v. (D–G)

Executors' and Guardians' Record, 1860–1874, 1 v.

Guardians' Record, 1874–date, 5 v. (C–G)

Record of Miscellaneous Probate Bonds and Letters, 1874–date, 2 v. (A–B)

The volume contains bonds of administrators de bonis non, with will annexed, etc.

INVENTORIES, APPRAISEMENTS, SALE BILLS, ETC.

Inventory, Appraisement, and Sale Record, 1858–1863, 1 v. (1); 1863–1872, 2 v. (A–B)

Sale Record, 1872–date, 3 v. (C–E)
Inventory Record, 1872–date, 6 v. (C–H)
Appraisement Record, 1872–date, 6 v. (C–H)
Guardians' Inventory Record, 1875–date, 1 v. (A)
Record of Conservators' Inventories and Reports, 1882–date, 2 v. (B–C)
Private Sale Record, 1883–date, 2 v. (A–B)

REPORT RECORDS

Probate Account Current, 1850–1860, 1 v.
Administrators' Report Record, 1871–date, 8 v. (A–H)
Administrators' Ledger, 1860–1900, 4 v. (A–D)
Guardianship Ledger, 1852–1900, 3 v. (A–C)
Guardians' Report Record, 1874–date, 5 v. (A–E)
Insolvent Estate Record, 1879–date, 1 v. (1)
The record contains administrators' reports and petitions for discharge, orders of court, etc.
Widows' Relinquishment and Selection Record, 1876–date, 3 v. (B–D)
Record of Petition, Decree and Report of Sale of Real Estate to Pay Debts, 1867–1877, 1 v. (A)

Clerk of the Circuit Court

CIRCUIT COURT RECORDS

Circuit Court Record, 1839–date, 25 v. (1–25); Chancery, 1867–date, 25 v. (1–25); Criminal, 1906–date, 3 v. (1–3)
Recognizance Record, 1869–1891, 1 v. (A)
Default Record, 1868–1878, 1 v.
Circuit Court Files, 1836–date, 440 f.b.
Common law, criminal, and chancery papers are filed together.
Naturalization Record, 1857–1903, 2 v.

DOCKETS, FEE BOOKS, ETC.

Circuit Court General Docket, 1892–date, 3 v. (2–4)
Clerks' Docket, 1875–date.
Judges' Docket, 1878–date.
Judgment Docket, 1840–date, 9 v. (1–9)
Execution Docket, 1840-date, 6 v. (1–6)

Fee Book (common law, criminal, and chancery), 1839–date, 27 v. (1–27)
Justice of the Peace Transcript Record, 1847–date, 5 v. (1–5)
Indictment Record, 1873–1898, 2 v. (A–B)
Coroners' Record, 1874–1894, 1 v. (A)

Circuit Clerk—Recorder

RECORDERS' RECORDS

Entry Book, 1869–date, 11 v. (A–K)
Record of Deeds, 1839–date, 132 v. (1–132)
Quit Claim Deed Record, 1869–date, 8 v. (1–8)
Mortgage Record, 1869–date, 62 v. (A–Z, AA–ZZ, A1–J1)
Release Record, 1869–date, 17 v. (1–17)
Mortgagor Index, 1865–date, 7 v. (1–7)
Mortgagee Index, 1865–date, 7 v. (1–7)
Grantor Index, 1839–date 13 v. (1–13)
Grantee Index, 1839–date, 13 v. (1–13)
Chattel Mortgage Record, 51 v. (A–U in basement, V–Z, AB–AZ)
Record of Certificates of Levy and Sale, 1873–date, 2 v. (A–B)
Surveyors' Record, 1852–1869, 1 v. (1)

CLARK COUNTY[1]

The county was set off from Crawford in 1819; the county seat is Marshall. The courthouse is located in a public square and is fireproof. The vaults are good and equipped with modern filing equipment. A fire, December 30, 1902, that destroyed a former courthouse was responsible for the loss of the assessors' and collectors' books, marriage licenses birth reports, etc.—all of which had been stored in an attic.

County Clerk

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' AND SUPERVISORS' RECORDS

County Commissioners' Court Record, January, 1833–May, 1838, 1 v.; December, 1838–September, 1853, 1 v.

The volumes contain road plats, notes, etc.; appointments and reports of supervisors of roads; ferry and tavern licenses and rates; lists of jurors; provision for care of poor and dependent. The first volume is 8 x 14 inches in size, with cardboard back; the second volume is of regular size.

Supervisors' Record, December, 1853–date, 11 v. (A–K)

Register of County Orders, 1855–1886, 1 v., labeled "Supplementary Order Book."

This is a register of orders on treasurer, the headings being name of person to whom granted, amount and purpose of order.

Register of County Orders, 1887–date, 2 v. (C–D)

Jury List, 1872–date, 2 v.

COUNTY COURT RECORDS

County Court Record, 1872–date: Common Law, 2 v. (1–2); Criminal, 4 v. (1–4)

Default Record, 1876–1894, 1 v. (A)

Confession Record, 1900–date, 1 v. (1)

Common Law and Criminal Files; filed with Probate Files in 219 f.b.

[1] Examined March, 1912.

Index to Court Files, 1 v. each for common law, criminal, and miscellaneous.

Insanity Record, 1893–1900, 1 v.

Insane and Conservators' Record, 1900–date; and Record of Appointment of Conservators, 1897–date, 1 v.

Judgment Docket, 1872–1886, 1 v.

Execution Docket, 1857–1887, 1 v.

Judgment and Execution Docket, 1887–date, 2 v. (2–3)

County Court Fee Book (common law and criminal), 1872–date, 5 v.

Insane and Conservators' Fee Book, 1894–date, 1 v. (1)

TAXATION RECORDS

Abstract of Assessment and Taxes, 1888–date, 2 v. (2–3)

School Plat Book, 1850–1859, 1 v. (8 x 14 inches, with cardboard back); 1862–1907, 1 v. (10 x 12 inches, cloth bound)

Assessors' Books, 1901–date; Collectors' Books, 1901–date.

All the older tax books were burned in the fire of 1902.

Board of Review Record, 1899–date, 1 v. (1)

Board of Review Complaint Docket, 1899–date, 1 v. (1)

Tax Judgment Record, 1850–1879, 4 v. (A–D)

Tax Sale and Redemption Record, 1834–1854, 1862–1879, 2 v. (C–D)

Tax Judgment, Sale, Redemption, and Forfeiture Record, 1880–date, 9 v.

Record of Affidavits for Tax Deeds, 1873–1910, 3 v. (A–C)

RECORDS OF VITAL STATISTICS

Marriage Record, June, 1819–date, 11 v. (1, A–J)

These are records of licenses issued, giving names, date, and record of certificate of marriage returned by officer performing the ceremony. Volume 1 has been copied. It is the only one not indexed.

Register of Marriages, January, 1878–date, 3 v. (1–3)

Board of health form is used.

Index to Marriage Register (by male and female), 1 v.

Record of Applications for Marriage License, 1878–date, 10 v. (A–J)

Marriage Licenses, 1900–date.

These are tied in bundles and placed on top of filingboxes in vault.

Record of Births and Deaths, August, 1865–February, 1867, 1 v.

Contains birth certificates filed to prove heirship. The record gives only the name of child and parent, and date of birth.

Register of Births, 1878–date, 3 v.; Index, 1 v.

Register of Deaths, 1878–date, 2 v.; Index, 1 v.

Birth Reports, 1901–date.

Death Reports, 1901–date.

The birth reports and death reports are tied in bundles and piled on top of filingboxes in vault. All the older reports, 1877–1900, were lost in the fire of 1902.

Record of Physicians' and Midwives' Certificates, 1879–1903, 1 v.

The volume contains 299 p., only 5½ of which have been used.

Record of Physicians' Certificates, December, 1877–September, 1911, 1 v. (1)

Record of Physicians' and Dentists' Certificates, 1908–date, 1 v. (3)

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Record of Commissions, November, 1821–December, 1858, 1 v. (6 x 8 inches, with cardboard back); 1859–1899, 1 v.

The record contains names of justices, sheriffs, coroners, and recorders with date of commission and date of resignation, removal, or expiration of term.

Commission and Certificate Record, 1 v. (2)

The contents include: notary publics' commissions, December, 1899–May, 1901, 14 p.; dentists' certificates, June, 1900–March, 1912, 14 p.; certificates of registered stock, giving description and pedigree, 1900–1909, 12 p.; register of town officers, 1900–1911, 32 p.; record of architects' licenses, 1898–1903, 2 p., 1 entry on each. The volume contains 640 p.

Militia Roll Record, 1861–1862, 1 v. (A)

Record of Ear Marks, May, 1819–May, 1861, 1 v.

The volume is 6 x 8 inches in size, with cardboard back.

Estray Record, 1857–1901, 1 v. (B)

Miscellaneous Record, 1859–date, 3 v. (B–D)

The volume records all miscellaneous records of county or probate court, e.g., bonds of county officers, inventories, papers too long for printed forms, etc.

School Commissioners' Record, June, 1836–December, 1837, 1 v.

Lands sold and money loaned by commissioners are recorded. The volume is 8 x 14 inches in size, leather bound, and is labeled "Letter Book."

County Clerk—Probate

PROBATE COURT RECORDS

Court Order Book, April, 1820–October, 1838, 1 v.; Probate Record, October, 1838–July, 1842, 1 v. (2); Probate Record, August, 1843–March, 1847, 1 v. (3); Docket, April, 1847–January, 1850, 1 v. (4)

The volumes contain all probate records—wills, letters, bonds, inventories, appraisements and sale bills, claims, reports, court orders and decrees.

Probate Order Book, December, 1849–December, 1859, 2 v. (A–B)

The volumes contain court orders and proceedings.

Probate Journal, February, 1860–date, 27 v. (A–Z, 1)

This is a record of court proceedings, orders, and decrees.

Record of Claims filed, proved and allowed, January, 1844–December, 1849, 1 v.

Probate Files, 1821–date; Common Law and Criminal Files, 1872–date.

There are 219 f.b. of both. The probate files are kept in separate boxes which are numbered consecutively with those containing common law and criminal files.

Indexes to Probate Files: Estate, 1 v.; Guardians, 1 v.

The indexes show name of estate and number of filingbox.

DOCKETS AND FEE BOOKS

Probate Judges' Docket, 1859–1862, 1 v. (A); 1874–1876, 1 v.; 1878–date, 15 v.

Names of parties, kind of business, date and order of court are recorded.

Estate Docket, 1903–date, 1 v. (2)

The headings are: name of estate and of administrator; date of letters; date and amount of bond; names of sureties; names of widow and heirs; date and amount of inventory, appraisements and sale bills; reference to record; remarks.

Probate Judgment Docket, December, 1845–June, 1856, 1 v.; 1856–1872, 1 v.; 1859–1866, 1 v. (A)

Probate Fee Book, 1857–date, 7 v. (1–2, A–E)

Guardians' Fee Book, 1900–date, 1 v. (1)

RECORDS OF WILLS, BONDS, AND LETTERS

Record of Wills, 1859–1898, 2 v. (1–2)

Will and Executor Record, 1898–date, 3 v. (3–5)

Besides the will this record contains the bond, oath, and letters of the executor.

Bond Record, Administrators, Executors, and Guardians, 1850–1878, 3 v.

Record of Letters of Administrators, Executors, and Guardians, 1850–1877, 3 v.

Administrators' Record, 1859–date, 7 v. (A–G)

Bonds, oaths, and letters are recorded.

Executors' Record, 1878–1898, 2 v. (B–C)

The contents are the same as above.

Guardians' Record, 5 v. (B–F)

Contents same as above.

Record of Miscellaneous Bonds and Letters, 1890–date, 2 v. (1–2)

INVENTORIES, APPRAISEMENTS, SALE BILLS, ETC.

Record of Inventory, Appraisement, and Sale Bills, 1849–1861, 2 v. (A–B)

Inventory Record, 1866–date, 7 v. (A–G)

Guardians' Inventory Record, 1872–date, 2 v. (A–B)

Appraisement Record, 1866–date, 7 v. (C–I)

Sale Bill Record, 1859–date, 5 v. (A–F, v. B not used)

Record of Accounts Current, 1849–1858, 1 v.

This contains accounts of administrators, executors, and guardians. The volume is labeled "Record 1849–58."

Report Record, 1870–date, 6 v. (A–F)

Guardians' Report Record, 1885–date, 5 v. (1–5)

Probate Ledger, 1857–date, 4 v. (A–D)

This is a record of debits and credits for each estate.

Widows' Relinquishment and Selection Record, 1875–date, 2 v. (A–B)

Record of Proceedings to Sell Real Estate, 1850–1859, 1 v.; 1871–1877, 1 v.

Guardians' Record of Sale of Real Estate, 1874–1876, 1 v. (A)

Record of Decrees on Petitions to Sell Real Estate, 1865–1867, 1 v. (A)

Record of Decrees of Court on Petitions to Sell Real Estate, 1893–date, 3 v.
Record of Report of Sale of Real Estate to Pay Debts, 1894–date, 2 v. (1–2)

Clerk of the Circuit Court

CIRCUIT COURT RECORDS

Circuit Court Records: Common Law, Chancery, and Criminal, 1826–1871, 10 v.; Chancery, 1871–date, 13 v.; Common Law, 1871–date, 4 v.; Criminal, 1870–date, 4 v.
Complete Record, 1837–1870, 2 v.

In this record the files of cases affecting title to real estate were recorded at length.

Default and Recognizance Record, 1868–1877, 1 v. (1)
Default Record, 1876–date, 1 v. (1)
Confession Record (judgment by confession), 1893–date, 2 v. (1–2)
Foreclosure Record, 1874–date, 5 v.

A record of proceedings to foreclose mortgages.

Index to Court Records, 1858–date, 3 v. each for plaintiff and defendant.
Circuit Court Files, c. 1852–date, 249 f.b.

Many of the files earlier than 1870 were outside of the vault at the time of the fire and were burned.

DOCKETS, FEE BOOKS, ETC.

Judges' Docket, 1841–date, c. 22 v.
Judgment and Execution Docket, 1837–date, 14 v.
Record of Executions Issued, 1824–1840, 1 v.
Fee Book, 1839–date, 25 v.
Justice of the Peace Transcript Record, 1848–date, 4 v. (A–D)
States Attorneys' Report Record, 1909–date, 1 v. (1)

Circuit Clerk—Recorder

DEED AND MORTGAGE RECORDS

Entry Book, 1853–date, 11 v. (1–11)
Deed Record, 1821–date, 107 v. (A–Z, 1–81)
Mortgage Record, 1848–date, 53 v. (A–F, 1–47)
Release Record, 1877–date, 6 v.

Plat Record, 1886–date, 2 v. (1–2)
Oil and Gas Lease Record, 1904–date, 4 v.
Complete Index, 1818–1871, 2 v.
The index gives grantor and grantee, and reference.
General Index (deeds), 1871–date, 5 v. each for grantor and grantee.
General Index (mortgages), 1871–date, 5 v. each for mortgagor and mortgagee.
Chattel Mortgage Record, 1870–date, 18 v. (1–18)
Chattel Mortgage Extension Record, 1896–date, 1 v. (1)

CERTIFICATES OF LEVY, SALE, AND REDEMPTION, ETC.

Record of Masters' Reports of Sale and Distribution, 1895–date, 2 v. (D–E)
Record of Sheriffs' Certificates of Levy and Sale, 1852–date, 3 v. (1–3)
Masters' Certificates of Sale Record, 1875–date, 2 v.
Surveyors' Record, 1893–date, 3 v.
Record of Surveys, 1830–1855, 2 v.
Miscellaneous Record, 1878–date, 6 v. (1–6)

CLAY COUNTY[1]

Clay county was made up from territory in Fayette, Crawford, Wayne, and Lawrence in 1824; the county seat is Louisville. Clay county has just completed a new courthouse which is apparently fireproof, with large light vaults, equipped with good filing material. A few of the county clerks' old papers are in tin boxes in the basement. Otherwise, all records are in the vaults, which will be ample to accommodate future increments for many years to come.

County Clerk

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' AND SUPERVISORS' RECORDS

County Commissioners' and Supervisors' Record, 1825–1840, 1 v.; 1841–1851, 1 v.; 1851–1869, 3 v.; 1877–date, 3 v.

Road Plat Record, 1885–1899, 1 v.

Register of County Orders, 1862–1875, 1 v.; 1876–date, 3 v.

Jury List, 1873–1910, 1 v.

COUNTY COURT RECORDS

County Court Record, 1872–date, 3 v.

Common Law and Criminal Files, 282 f.b.

The probate files are also kept in these boxes.

Insanity Record, 1893–date, 2 v.

The volumes have separate forms for trial by jury and trial by commission.

Drainage Record, 1911–date, 1 v.

Drainage Assessment Record, 1912, 1 v.

Naturalization Record, 1870–1900, 1904, 2 v.

Judges' Docket, 1872–date, 4 v. (1–4)

Clerks' Docket, 1872–date, 3 v.

Judgment Docket, 1874–date, 2 v.

Execution Docket, 1875–date, 2 v.

Insanity Docket, 1895–date, 1 v.

[1] Examined July, 1912; reëxamined April, 1914.

Record of Jury Warrants, 1872–1902, 1 v.
Fee Book: Common Law and Criminal, 1872–1898, 3 v.; Criminal, 1898–date, 2 v.; Common Law, to date, 1 v.
Insanity Fee Book, 1907–date, 1 v.

TAXATION RECORDS

Footings of Assessment Books, etc., 1873–1880, 1 v.; 1886–1901, 1 v.; 1903–date, 1 v.; 1890–date, 1 v.
Docket of Rates and Amounts Wanted, 1876–date, 4 v.
Original Land Entry Book, 3 v.
Entry of Conveyances, 1873, 1 v.
Assessors' Books, 1854, 1855, 1857, 1858, 1859, 1860, 1861, 1869, 1 v. each.
Collectors' Books, 1855, 1856, 1857, 1861, *et seq.*
Railroad Tax Book, 1887–date, 1 v.
Board of Review Record, 1899–date, 2 v.
List of Real Estate on which taxes are due and unpaid, 1844–1857, 1 v.
Tax Judgment Record, 1858–1880, 4 v.
Tax Sale and Redemption Record, 1858–1863, 1 v.; 1867–1880, 2 v.
Record of Lands Forfeited to the State, 1877–1879, 1 v.
Tax Judgment, Sale, and Redemption Record, 1880–date, 6 v.
Record of Affidavits for Tax Deeds, 1882–date, 2 v. (D–E)

RECORDS OF VITAL STATISTICS

Record of Marriage Licenses and Returns, 1825–1905, 10 v.
Register of Marriages, 1873, 1 v.; 1878–date, 3 v.
Register of Births, 1878–date, 6 v. (1–6); Index, 1878–1906, 1 v.
Register of Deaths, 1877–date, 4 v.
Record of Physicians' Certificates, 1878–date, 1 v.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Election Returns, 1858–1875.
These are in the basement.

Patent Record, 1869–1879, 1 v.
Record of Justice of the Peace, Constable, and Dog License Bonds, 1885–date, 1 v. (A)
Assessors' Bond Record, 1898–1911, 1 v.

Register of Marks and Brands, 1848–1867, 1 v.
Estray Record, 1835–1900, 3 v.
List of Swamp Lands, 1858–1860, 1 v.
County Clerks' Register of Fees, 1872–1907, 1 v.
Reports of Fines, 1889–1899, 1 v.
County Clerks' Account Book, Births and Deaths, 1903–date, 2 v.
Marriage Licenses, Road Tax Lists, etc.

These and certain other files are in a series of basement filingboxes, mixed and unlabeled. In the time at the examiner's disposal it was impossible to list the contents fully, but it is believed that all election returns have been noted above.

County Clerk—Probate

PROBATE COURT RECORDS

Probate Order Book, 1837–1845, 1 v.; 1854–date, 16 v.
Record of Claims Contested, 1887–1901, 1 v.

DOCKETS AND FEE BOOKS

Probate Judges' Docket, 1872–date, 10 v.
Probate Court Docket, 1846–1872, 2 v.
Clerks' Probate Docket, 1872–1899, 1 v. (A)
Probate Judgment Docket, 1859–1871, 1 v.; 1858–1865, 1 v.
Docket of Claims and Judgments, 1875–1884, 1 v.
Probate Fee Book, 1857–date, 8 v.

RECORDS OF WILLS, BONDS, AND LETTERS

Record of Probate Papers, 1837–1858, 5 v.
Record of Wills, 1867–date, 2 v. (A–B)
Guardians' Record, 1864–date, 5 v.
Record of Administrators' Bonds and Letters, 1852–1861, 2 v.; 1863–date, 4 v.

These also contain inventories, appraisements, etc.

Record of Executors' Bonds and Letters, 1863–date, 1 v.
Record of Miscellaneous Bonds and Letters, 1876–1891, 1 v.

INVENTORIES, APPRAISEMENTS, AND SALE BILLS

Inventory, Appraisement, and Sale Bill Record, 1872–1883, 1 v. (M)

Inventories and Sale Bills, 1861–1872, 4 v. (1 unnumbered and J–L); 1883–date, 2 v. (N, O)
Appraisement Record, 1883–date, 3 v.
Private Sale Record, 1872–date, 1 v.
Public Sale Record, 1885–date, 1 v.
Guardians' Inventory Record, 1872–date, 2 v.
Guardians' Sale Record, 1913–date, 1 v.

REPORT RECORDS, ETC.

Estate Ledger, 1869–date, 4 v. (A–D)
Guardians' Estate Ledger, 1889–1907, 1 v. (A)
Guardians' Accounts Current, 1878–1883, 1 v.
"Accounts Current," 1856–1871, 1 v.
Administrators' Report Record, 1879–1905, 2 v. (C–D)
Guardians' Report Record, 1871–date, 6 v. (A–F)
Volumes A and B, 1871–1879, also contain administrators' reports.
Insolvent Estate Record, 1876–1900, 1 v. (1)
Widows' Relinquishment and Selection Record, 1874–date, 2 v. (1–2)

Clerk of the Circuit Court

CIRCUIT COURT RECORDS

Circuit Court Record, 1825–date, 22 v.
Record of Judgment by Confession in Vacation, 1895–date, 1 v.
Recognizance Record, 1903–date, 2 v.
Default Record, 1882–1901, 1 v.
Index to Court Records, 2 v. each for plaintiff and defendant.
Circuit Court Files, 1825–date, 185 f.b.
Naturalization Record, 1867–1910, 1 v.

DOCKETS, FEE BOOKS, ETC.

Judges' Docket, 1855–1909, 14 v.
Volume 1865–1870 is missing. Loose-leaf volumes are now used.
Clerks' Docket, 1870–1900, 12 v.
General Docket, 1885–1898, 1 v.; 1902–date, 1 v.
Judgment Docket, 1852–1909, 2 v.
Execution Docket, 1857–date, 2 v.
Docket of Mechanics' Liens, 1894–date, 1 v.

Court Fee Book, 1853–date, 24 v.
Justice of the Peace Transcript Record, 1855–date, 3 v.
Indictment Record, 1889–1910, 1 v.

Circuit Clerk—Recorder

DEED AND MORTGAGE RECORDS

Entry Book, 1825–date, 7 v.
Record of Deeds, 1825–date, 100 v.
Administrators' Deed Record, 1881–date, 1 v.
Masters' Deed Record, 1881–date, 1 v.
Sheriffs' Deed Record, 1867–date, 1 v.
Cemetery Deed Record, 1907–date, 1 v.
Mortgage Record, 48 v.
School Mortgage Record, 1908–date, 1 v.
Release Record, 1875–date, 7 v.
Lease Record, 1905–date, 3 v.
Plat Record, 1873–date, 2 v.
General Index, 8 v. each for grantor and grantee.
Index to Marginal Releases, 1905–date, 1 v.
Chattel Mortgage Record, 1864–date, 17 v.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Record of Sheriffs' Certificates of Levy and Sale, 1856–date, 3 v.
Record of Masters' Certificates of Sale, 1886–date, 1 v.
Miscellaneous Record, 1891–date, 2 v.
Soldiers' Discharge Record, 1865–1898, 1 v.
Stallion Register, 1911–date, 1 v.
Town Treasurers' Bond Record, 1890–date, 2 v.

CLINTON COUNTY[1]

The county was established in 1824 in territory set off from Washington, Fayette, and Bond; the county seat is Carlyle. The courthouse is located in a public square but it is not fireproof in construction. The vaults, however, are fireproof and well equipped with steel filing material. Certain less important records, such as assessors' and collectors' books, fee books, dockets, marriage licenses, etc. are stored outside the vaults.

County Clerk

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' AND SUPERVISORS' RECORDS

County Commissioners' Court Record, 1825–1850, 2 v. (A–B)

The record contains: orders of various sorts; ferry and tavern licenses and rates; road surveys, and reports; jury lists; tax rates, etc. The commissioners' records, 1825–1850, have been transcribed into two good volumes in accordance with an act of the general assembly of 1869. *Laws of 1869*, v. 3: 382.

County Court Record, 1851–1873, 3 v. (C^1, C^2, D)

Supervisors' Record, 1874–date, 5 v. (A–E)

Record of Roads, 1857–1870, 1 v., labeled "Roads."

The volume contains surveys and plats of county roads.

Old Road Papers, 1840–1875, 6 f.b.

These files contain petitions for roads or change of roads, reports of supervisors and viewers of roads, etc.

Supervisors' Papers, 1883–1906.

The papers are filed in the storeroom in about 30 p.h.; recent files are in 18 f.b. in the vault.

Jury List, 1872–date, 2 v. (1–2)

COUNTY COURT RECORDS

County Court Record, 1873–date, 2 v.

County Court Files (common law and criminal), 1872–1896; 1896–date, 36 f.b.

The first series is in about 20 p.h. in the storeroom; the second is in

[1] Examined June, 1912.

the vault. The earlier papers are mixed with marriage licenses, birth and death reports, old supervisors' papers, etc., so that it is impossible to estimate exactly how many or how complete they are.

Insanity Record, 1894–date, 1 v. (1)

Naturalization Record, 1865–1906, 6 v.

Judgment Docket, 1899–date, 1 v. (2)

Execution Docket, 1869–1883, 1 v. (A)

Insanity Docket, 1894–date, 1 v. (1)

County Court Fee Book, 1873–date, 4 v. (1–4)

Insanity Fee Book, 1897–date, 1 v. (A)

TAXATION RECORDS

County Clerks' Statement of Taxes to Auditor, 1892–date, 1 v. (A)

Docket of Rates and Amounts Wanted, 1879–1899, 1 v. (A)

Assessment and Statement of Taxes, 1884–date, 3 v. (1–3)

Assessors' Books, 1842, 1848–date.

Collectors' Books, 1855–date.

Railroad Tax Book, 1880–date, 3 v.

Telegraph and Telephone Tax Book, 1887–date, 2 v. (1–2)

Board of Review Record, 1899–date, 1 v. (1)

Board of Review Complaint Docket, 1899–date, 1 v. (1)

Tax Judgment Record, 1857–1879, 16 v.

Tax Sale and Redemption Record, 1840–1880, 12 v.

Tax Forfeiture Record, 1876–1879, 1 v.

Tax Judgment, Sale, Redemption and Forfeiture Record, 1880–date.

Record of Affidavits for Tax Deeds, 1875–date, 3 v. (1–3)

RECORDS OF VITAL STATISTICS

Record of Marriages, November, 1825–October, 1855, 2 v.

These are 8 x 13 inch volumes, with cardboard backs, and are not indexed. They give date of license, name of man and woman, by whose consent if not of age, when and by whom married, and when registered.

Marriage Record, December, 1857–April, 1866, 1 v.

The record consists of copy of license and certificate of marriage.

Register of Marriages, 1878–date, 2 v. (1 and 3); Index (by male and female), 1 v.

Record of Applications for Marriage License, 1883–date, 10 v. (1–10)

Marriage Licenses, 1878–date.

Filed in 72 p.h. in the storeroom.

Birth and Death Reports, 1877–date.

These are in 11 p.h. in storeroom.

Register of Births, 1877–date, 6 v. (1–6); Index, 2 v. (1–2)

Register of Deaths, 1877–date, 3 v. (1–3); Index, 1 v.

Register of Physicians and Midwives, 1877–date, 1 v.

Record of Physicians' Certificates, 1877–1910, 1 v. (A)

Record of Physicians' and Dentists' Certificates, 1905–date, 1 v. (B)

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Assessors' Bond Record, 1899–date, 1 v. (1)

Justices' Bond Record, 1873–1889, 1 v. (A)

Constables' Bond Record, 1873–1889, 1 v. (A)

Justices' and Constables' Bond Record, 1890–date, 1 v. (B)

Estray Record, 1831–1838, 1 v.; 1857–1882, 2 v. (B–C)

School Commissioners' Book, 1841–1848, 1 v. (6 x 15 inches)

This volume contains a record of apportionment of school money among the townships, giving number of township, number of school children and amount of apportionment.

School Commissioners' Record, 1837–1847, 1 v. (6 x 15 inches)

This volume contains records of sale of school lands, and of investment of money for schools.

Day Book of Webster and Sanborn (storekeepers), 1848–1849, 1 v.

County Clerk—Probate

PROBATE COURT RECORDS

Probate Record, 1825–date, 15 v. (A–J, 1–5)

The early volumes, up to about 1860, contain all probate records—wills, inventories, sale bills, decrees, orders, bonds and letters, reports and settlements, etc.

Claim and Settlement Book, 1865–1871, 1 v. (A)

The volume is a record of claims filed against estates, and of settlements made by guardians and administrators.

Probate Files, 1825–date: Estates, 405 f.b.; Guardians, Insane, and Conservators, 128 f.b.

Index to Estates, 1 v.
Index to Guardians', Insane, and Conservators' Files, 1 v.

DOCKETS AND FEE BOOKS

Probate Judges' Docket, 1865–date, 10 v. (B–K)
Estate Docket, 1857–1859, 1 v., labeled "Docket A"; 1866–1883, 1 v., labeled "Estate Docket A"; 1898–date, 1 v. (1)
Probate Judgment Docket, 1860–date, 6 v. (A–F)
The contents are name of estate, name of claimant, nature and amount of claim, and order of court.
Probate Fee Book, 1865–1878, 3 v. (A–C); 1879–date, 6 v. (2–7)

RECORDS OF WILLS, BONDS, AND LETTERS

Record of Wills, 1850–date, 5 v. (A–E)
Administrators' Record, 1865–date, 5 v.
Executors' Record, 1879–date, 3 v. (1–3)
Conservators' Record, 1897–date, 1 v. (A)
Guardians' Record, 1857–date, 5 v. (A–E)
The first two volumes are labeled "Guardians' Bonds."
Administrators' Record (with will annexed, and de bonis non), 1879–date, 2 v.

INVENTORIES, APPRAISEMENTS, SALE BILLS, ETC.

Inventory, Appraisement and Sale Record, 1855–1861, 1 v.; 1864–1869, 1 v.
Inventory Record, 1869–date, 4 v. (B–E)
Guardians' Inventory Record, 1874–date, 1 v. (1)
Appraisement Record, 1866–date, 4 v. (B–E)
No appraisement bills were recorded from 1900 to 1910.
Sale Bill Record, 1866–1872, 1 v. (B)
Report Record, 1866–date, 6 v. (A, B^1, B^2, B^3, 4, 5)
Guardians' Report Record, 1885–date, 3 v. (2–4)
Decrees and Reports of Sale (proceedings on petition to sell real estate to pay debts), 1858–date, 4 v. (A, 1–3)
The volumes contain petitions for decree of sale and reports of sale.

Clerk of the Circuit Court

CIRCUIT COURT RECORDS

Circuit Court Record: Common Law, Chancery, and Criminal,

1825–1869, 9 v. (A–I); Common Law and Criminal, 1870–date, 4 v. (K–N, no J); Chancery, 1870–date, 6 v. (1–6)

Record of Confession of Judgment, 1886–date, 1 v.

Recognizance Record, 1877–date, 1 v. (B)

Index to Court Records, 1858–date, 4 v. each for plaintiff and defendant.

Circuit Court Files, 1825–date, 603 f.b.

Common law, chancery, and criminal files are numbered consecutively and filed together, but are indexed separately.

Index to Court Files: Criminal, 1825–date, 1 v.; Common Law, 1826–date, 1 v., indexed by plaintiff; Chancery, 1825–date, 1 v., indexed by plaintiff.

Naturalization Record, Declaration of Intention, 1858–1880, 1 v.

There are 4 entries to a page; pp. 27–600 are blank.

Record of Final Certificate of Naturalization, 1857–1862, 1 v.

There are 3 entries to a page; pp. 23–596 are blank.

Naturalization Record, 1864–1900, 1 v. (B)

The volume contains declarations of intention, 1864–1890, and final certificates, 1864–1904. Pages 64–121 and 157–580 are blank.

DOCKETS, FEE BOOKS, ETC.

Judges' Docket, 1857–date, 21 v. (A–U)

Volume U is loose leaf.

Judges' Docket, 1841–1846, 1 v.

Judgment Docket, 1835–1847, 1 v.; 1859–date, 5 v. (A–E)

Execution Docket, 1825–1856, 1 v., 1859–date, 5 v. (A–F, D not used)

Execution Docket, 1831–1846, 1 v.

The first half of this volume had been used as a daybook by some general merchant (1821) before it was used as execution docket.

Docket of Mechanics' Liens, 1889–date, 1 v. (1)

Fee Book, 1830–1833, 1 v.; 1855–1868, 6 v.; 1868–date, 17 v. (A–K, 1–6)

The first seven volumes are 8 x 14 inches.

Justice of the Peace Transcript Record, 1857–date, 2 v. (A–B)

Indictment Record, 1873–1905, 1 v. (A)

Pages 9–288 are blank.

Coroners' Record, 1870–1900, 1 v. (A)

Circuit Clerk—Recorder

DEED AND MORTGAGE RECORDS

Entry Book, 1818–date, 10 v. (A–J)

Deed Record, 1825–date, 73 v. (A–Z, 1–47)

Volumes A and B have been copied.

Mortgage Record, 1858–date, 52 v. (A–Z, AA–ZZ)

Up to about 1862 real estate and chattel mortgages were kept in same volumes. Since then they have been kept in separate volumes which are numbered consecutively. The release records are numbered with the mortgage records.

Oil and Gas Lease Record, 1906–date, 15 v. (1–15)

Plat Book, 1874–date, 3 v.

Index to Deeds, 1818–date, 2 v. each for grantor and grantee.

Index to Mortgages, 1858–date, 5 v. each for mortgagor and mortgagee.

Index to Marginal Releases and Assignments, 1905–date, 1 v. (1)

Chattel Mortgage Index, 4 v. (1–4)

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Record of Sheriffs' and Masters' Certificates of Levy, Sale and Redemption, 1857–date, 6 v. (A–F)

Surveyors' Record, 1872–date, 2 v. (1–2)

Record of United States Surveys, 1 v.

The volume was copied from surveys in the auditors' office, 1897.

Transcript of Original (Record of United States Survey), 1 v.

Land Entry Book, c. 1815–1865, 1 v.

Surveyors' Record, 1829–1836; 1880–1881, 1 v., labeled "Book A."

Pages 1–130 contain plats and field notes of surveys, 1829–1836, very neatly done; pp. 130–143 contain similar records, April, 1880–January, 1881. The volume measures 8 x 13 inches.

School Treasurers' Bond Record, 1890–date, 1 v. (C)

Soldiers' Discharge Record, 1866–1880, 1 v. (1)

Pages 26–415 are blank.

Collectors' Bond Record, 1874–date, 2 v. (A–B)

Stallion Register, 1910–date, 1 v. (1); Renewals, 1911–date, 1 v. (2)

COLES COUNTY[1]

Coles county was founded in 1830 from Clark and Edgar; the county seat is Charleston. The courthouse is located in a public square and is reasonably modern. All except current records are kept in fireproof vaults, one for each office. Each vault is two storied, the only admittance to the lower floor being by a narrow stair from the upper. Fittings in the lower vaults are wood, and in the upper vaults steel.

County Clerk

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' AND SUPERVISORS' RECORDS

County Commissioners' Record, 1832–1839, 1 v.; (copied 1832–1836 in 1 v.); 1839–1848, 2 v.; 1849–1869, 3 v.

Supervisors' Record, to date, v. 3–11.

Supervisors' Papers, 1899–date, 62 f.b.; 1835–1899, 96 f.b., L.V.

Index to County Commissioners' Records, 1832–1869, 1 v.

Register of County Orders, 1851–1894, 5 v., L. V.; 1894–date, 3 v.

Register of County Orders Countersigned, 1869–1891, 2 v., L.V.

The headings are number, person, amount, interest, and when paid.

List of Cancelled Jury Certificates and Orders, 1875–1900, 2 f.b., L.V.

Register of Coles County Bonds, 1907, 1 v.

Jury Lists, 1875–1879, 1 f.b., L.V.

List of Jurors, 1900–date, 1 v.

COUNTY COURT RECORDS

County Court Record, 1893–date, 2 v. (16 and 17)[2]

Record of Judgment by Confession in Vacation, 1893–date, 3 v. (18, 19, and one other); Confessions, 1898–1913, 1 f.b.

Loose-Leaf Court Record (docket form), 1910, 1 v.

Defendants' Index to Records, 1873–1888, 1 v., L.V.

County Court Files, nos. 1400–1800, 9 f.b.: 1872–1895, 45 f.b., L.V.

[1] Examined February, 1914.

[2] For earlier records see probate records.

Record of Voluntary Resignations, 1877–1896, 1 v.
Voluntary Assignments of eighties and nineties, 2 f.b., L.V.
Drainage Record, 1898–date, 5 v. (1–5)

These contain judges' orders, petitions, assessment estimates, findings, etc.

Recent Drainage Papers, 13 f.b.; c. 1896 *et seq.*, in drawers.
Docket of Mothers' Pensions (a printed-form court record), 1913–date, 1 v.; Record of Monthly Payments, 1 v.
Insanity Record, 1893, 1 v.; 1902–1907, 1 v.

Only three pages of the 1893 volume have been used.

Insanity Files, L.V.

These begin at least as early as 1859 and run to the 1890's; they are too confused to be described accurately.

Inheritance Tax Record, 1 v.

There are but four entries in the record.

Naturalization Record, 1894–1898, 1 v.

It contains but five entries.

General Docket, Coles County Court, 1894–1912, 1 v.

The headings are: number of case, attorneys, parties, order at present and previous term.

Judges' Docket, 1895–date, 1 v.
Clerks' Docket, 1873–1894, 5 v., L.V.; 1893–1903, 1 v.
Judgment and Execution Docket, 1872–date, 2 v.; Index, 2 v., L.V.
Executions, 1870–1902, 6 f.b.
Summons and Executions, 1831–1840, 3 f.b., L.V.
Insanity Docket, 1893, 1893–1913, 2 v.; 1 v. current.

These volumes contain number of case, names of person alleged to be insane, petitioner, and witnesses; names of jurors or physicians, date, and orders.

Fee Book, 1872–date, 6 v.
Insanity Fee Book, 1899–1911, 1 v.; 1911–date, 1 v.
Register of Jurors, 1887–1893, 1 v.
Witnesses' Depositions, current, 1 v. (1)
Current Venires, 1 f.b.

TAXATION RECORDS

Abstracts of Assessments and Taxes, 1888–1912, 1 v.
Docket of Rates and Amounts Wanted, 1891–1897, 1 v.; 1902–date, 1 v.

Record of Moneys and Credits and Taxes thereon, 1900–1904, *et seq.*, 2 v.

The contents are apparently a record of taxes due in the past on property disclosed by probate proceedings.

Transcript of Auditors' Reports of Land Entered in Coles County to 1874, 1 v.

Record of Conveyances of Town Lots, 1871–1893, 1 v., L.V.

This is a register of grantor and grantee, instrument, description, lot, block, when conveyed.

"Instruments Deposited for Record," 1868–1869, 1 v., L.V.

Plat Book of School Districts, 1867–1899, 1 v.; c. 1901, 1 v.

Tax Levies, 1839–1894, 19 f.b., L.V.; 1899–1911, 4 f.b.

Road Lists, 1860 *et seq.*, L.V.; 1902–1908, 4 f.b.

"Road Returns," 1838, 1 f.b., L.V.

Railroad Tax Schedules, 1878–1885, 1 f.b.; 1903–1909, 2 f.b.; 1912–date, 1 v.

Individual Statements of Omitted Property, 1902, 1 v., L.V.

Assessors' Books, 1907–date, 48 v.

Railroad Tax Book, 1873–1886, 2 v., L.V.; 1889–1898, 1 v.; and current volume.

Collectors' Book for Coles County, 1854, 1 v., L.V.

Record of Board of Review Proceedings, v. 2–3, to 1913.

Board of Review Papers, 1899–1900, 2 f.b., L.V.

Board of Review Complaint Docket, 1899–date, 2 v.

Refunding Fund Record, 1875–1877, 2 v., L.V.

Tax Publications, 1857–1874, 3 f.b., L.V.

Delinquent Tax Lists, 1861–1877, 8 v.; 1878–1894, 13 v., L.V.

Transcripts of returns of tax collectors of land on which tax is unpaid, the headings being description, equalized value, taxes, total, when paid, and remarks.

Objections to Tax Judgments, 1896–date, 2 f.b.

Tax Sale Record, 1861–1873, 3 v., L.V.

Tax Judgment Record, 1849–1862, 1 v. (A), L.V.; (petition), 1851–1860, 1 v. (B), L.V.; 1860–1879, 8 v., L.V.

Forfeiture Record, 1872–1878, 1 v., L.V.; 1887–1889, 1 v.

Tax Sale and Redemption Record, 1875–1880, 2 v., L.V.

Tax Judgment, Sale, Forfeiture and Redemption Record, 1880–1910, 11 v. (1882 in L.V.); 1 v. current.

Tax Purchase Certificates, 1887–1890, 1 f.b., L.V.

Record of Affidavits for Tax Deeds, 1872–1891, 1 v.; 1887–date, 3 v.

Affidavits for Tax Deeds, 1872–1900, 3 f.b.; 1863–1890, 5 f.b., L.V.; c. 1895–1900, 1 locked drawer.

County Collectors in Account with County, 1874–1885, 1 v., L.V.

Town Collectors in Account with County Treasurer, 1861–1879, 1 v., L.V.

County Collectors' Statement of Accounts with County, 1883–1890, L.V.

The statements are on loose papers pasted into the book.

Collectors' Statements, 1907–1909, 4 f.b.

Township Collectors' Receipts for Sums turned over to Local Authorities, 1877, 1 f.b.

RECORDS OF VITAL STATISTICS

Record of Applications for Marriage License, 1884–1886, 1 v.; 1888–1894, 5 v., L.V.; 1894–1899, 1 v.; 1899–1904, 1 v.; 1904–1905, 1 v.; 1905–1906, 1 v.; 1906–date, 3 v.

Loose-leaf volumes are now used.

Marriage Register, 1831–1842, 1 v., names and certificate; 1845–1850, 2 v.; 1861–1877, 3 v.; Index to v. 1–4; also copy of v. 1832–1850, 1 v.

Marriage License Record, 1874–1893, 6 v.

Register of Marriages, 1878–1908, 4 v., and current v.

Index to Marriage License Record, 1849–1861, 1 v.

Marriage Licenses, 1831–1901, 43 f.b., L.V.; 1902–1913, 8 f.b.

License Affidavits, 1865–1882, c. 5 f.b., L.V.

Register of Births, 1877–date, 9 v. (1–9)

Index to Births (v. 3–9), 1 v.

Register of Still Births, 1887–1909, 1 v.

Register of Deaths, 1877–date, 5 v. (1–5); Index, 1 v. (2)

Birth Reports, 1878–1900, 16 f.b., L.V.; 1905–1913, 4 f.b.

Death Certificates, 1878–1901, 5 f.b., L.V.; 1905–date, 3 f.b.

Through 1905–1913 births and deaths are filed together.

Coroners' Death Certificate Record, 1910–date, 1 v.

Register of Physicians and Accoucheurs, 1878–date, 2 v.

Physicians' Certificate Record, 1877–date, 2 v.

Record of Registered Nurses, 1910–1913, 1 v.
Record of Veterinary Surgeons' Certificates, 1899–1912, 1 v.
Architects' License Record, 1898–date, 1 v.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Poll Books and Tally Sheets, 1831–1892, 30 f.b., L.V.
Abstracts of Votes, 1832–1874 [?], L.V.

Among these are abstracts of the vote on the constitution of 1848. Abstracts, 1905–1906, are in main office.

Patent Record, 1869–1874, 1 v., L.V.
Estray Docket, 1850–1864, 1 v., L.V.
Estray Record, 1864–1907, 1 v.
Estray Papers, 1831–c. 1890, 5 f.b., L.V.
Register of Marks and Brands, 1831–1889, 1 v., L.V.
Justices' and Constables' Bonds, 1835–1893, 4 f.b., L.V.
Record of Bonds of Town Assessors and Supervisors, 1899–date, 1 v.
Collectors' Bonds and Receipts, 1860–1880, 1 f.b., L.V.
Register of County Officers, 1831–date, 3 v.
List of Town Officers, 1860–1886, 1 f.b., L.V.
School Commissioners' Journal Reports, 1836–1860, 1 f.b., L.V.
School Commissioners' Ledger, 1845–1857, 1 v., L.V.
Book "B," County Superintendent School Accounts, 1865–1885, 1 v., L.V.
Record of Accounts with Doctors and Town Clerks for Board of Health Fees, 1902, 1 v., L.V.; current v. in office.
Register of Fees (county clerk), 1873–1880, 1 v., L.V.; 1878–1899, 1 v.; 1913–date, 1 v.
Statement of Receipts and Expenditures, 1850–1860, 1 f.b., L.V.
County Treasurers' Monthly Reports, 1894–1902, 5 f.b.
County Treasurers' Ledger, 1874–1875, 1 v., L.V.
Treasurers' Settlements, 1899–1910, 2 f.b.
Coroners' Verdicts of the 80's, 1 f.b.
Treasurers' Accounts (county funds), 1872–1902, 1 v.
Justice of the Peace Docket, 1858–1862, 1 v.; 1861, 1 v., L.V.

There are about thirty old justice of the peace dockets scattered about the office, only a few earlier than 1870; there are also two packing cases full of recent justice of the peace papers.

Sheriffs' Execution Docket, 1875–1882, 1 v., L.V.
Sheriffs' Process Docket, 1881–1883, L.V.

County Clerk—Probate

PROBATE COURT RECORDS

Record of Court of Probate, 1832–1835, 1 v.; 1835–1842, 1 v.; 1831–1840, 1 v.; 1849–1856, 1 v. (B); 1856–1867, 2 v.

Probate Court Record, 1858–1894, 15 v. (1–15); 1892–date, 13 v. (17–29)

The assignment of the early part of this series is conjectural; v. 6–14, 1872–1890, contain county court business as well as the probate records.

Probate Judgment Record, 1866–1867, 1 v. (A); 1878–1893, 1 v. (14), L.V.; 1894–1908, 1 v. (15); plaintiff–defendant index, 3 v.

Order Book, County Court, 1859, 1 v., L.V.

Probate Files, nos. 1–7030, 1843–date.

DOCKETS AND FEE BOOKS

Probate Judgment Docket, 1859–1865, 1 v.; 1865–1869, 1 v. (B), L.V.; 1869–1875, 1 v. (C)

The headings are number of claim, when filed, claimant and estate, nature and amount, and judgment.

Probate Judgment Docket, 1880–1904, 6 v. (D–I); 1904–date, 2 v. (J and K)

Since 1904 this is labeled "Estate Judgment Docket." It gives number of claim, when filed, claimant and estate, etc. Since 1904 the headings are number of claim, when filed, claimant and nature of claim, amount, summons and notice, and judgment of court.

Probate Docket, Guardians, 1868–1869, 1 v., L.V.

The volume contains name of deceased and guardian, date of letters, amount of bonds, names and ages of heirs, date of accounts current, and remarks.

Probate Estate Docket, 1864–1882, 1 v., L.V.

The headings are: name of deceased and administrator; letters; bond and securities; widow and heirs; amount of sale bill; when filed; and remarks.

Judges' Docket, Probate, 1879–1887, 1 v. (1); 1887–1894, 1 v. (2); 1894–1899, 1 v. (3); 1879–date, 11 v.

Contents: first three volumes, title of case and remarks; second series, estate, applicant, what for, and order of court.

Probate Docket, 1840–1849.

This appears to be some kind of claim docket.

Clerks' Docket (Probate[?]), 1842–1856, 1 v., L.V.

Cost Bill Docket, 1844–1851, 1 v., L.V.; 1852–1863, 1 v., L.V.

Probate Fee Book, 1850–1865, 1 v., L.V.; 1863–1872, 1 v. (10), L.V.; 1872–1878, 1 v., L.V.; 1880–1907, 5 v. (12–16); 1911–date, 1 v. (19)

Conservators' Fee Book, 1910–date, 1 v. (1)

RECORDS OF WILLS, BONDS, AND LETTERS

Record of Wills, 1843–1849, 1 v. (A); 1846–1852, 1 v. (B); 1851–1855, 1 v. (C); 1855–1858, 1 v. (D)

Other probate papers are also recorded here.

Record of Wills, 1866–date, 4 v.

Administrators' Record, 1862–date, 8 v. (A–H)

Volume F, 1902–date, is de bonis non, etc. These records contain applications, bonds, and letters.

Record of Administrators' Bonds and Letters, 1849–1863, 1 v., L.V.

Record of Executors' Bonds and Letters, 1854–1865, 1 v., L.V.

It also contains guardians' bonds and letters to 1857.

Executors' Record, 1865–date, 3 v.

Guardians' Record, 1857–1865, 1 v.; 1865–date, 6 v. (B–G)

Conservators' Record, 1886–1889, 1 v.; 1893–date, 2 v.

The record contains insanity trial, appearance of conservator, bond and letters.

Record of Bonds for Sale of Real Estate, 1896–date, 1 v.

Record of Miscellaneous Bonds and Letters, 1875–1879, 1 v., L.V.

INVENTORIES, APPRAISEMENTS, AND SALE BILLS

Inventory Record, 1861–date, 10 v. (A–I, two A's)

Guardians' Inventory Record, 1875–date, 3 v.

Copartnership Appraisement Record, 1895–date, 1 v.

The form includes writ to appraisers, oath, and bill with oath. It is a two-page form.

Copartnership Inventory Record, 1896 *et seq.*, 1 v.

Appraisement Record, 1862–date, 8 v. (A–H)

The form includes warrant to appraisers, oath, estimate of value of property for widow, bill and certificate.

Sale Record, 1861–date, 4 v.; 1877–1888, 1 v. (M), L.V.

REPORT RECORDS, ETC.

Administrators' and Executors' Report Record, 1903–date, 4 v. (9–11, two 10's)

Guardians' Report Record, 1885–1911, 5 v. (6–10)

Settlement Record, 1870–1902, 6 v. (3–8)

Widows' Relinquishment and Selection Record, 1870–1903, 1 v., L.V.; 1892–date, 1 v.

Estate Ledger, 1850–1863, 1 v., L.V.; 1870–1893, 4 v.

Probate Ledger, 1863–1870, 1 v., L.V.

"Judges' Docket, Chancery," 1892–1895, L.V.

Clerks' Probate Docket, 1889–1893, 1 v., L.V.

The headings are date filed, estate, administrator, date of filing, attorney and remarks.

Docket of Probate Bonds, 1854–1874, 1 v., L.V.

The contents include name, amount of bond, date, sureties, and court order.

Clerk of the Circuit Court

CIRCUIT COURT RECORDS

Coles County Court Record, 1831–1834, 1 v.

Circuit Court Record, 1835–1870, 15 v. (1–15)

Volumes 5 and 13 are missing.

Chancery Record, 1870–date, 22 v. (16–37)

These records are typed after 1905.

Chancery Decree Record, 1909–date, 4 v.

These volumes are loose leaf.

Common Law Record, 1870–date, 17 v. (16–32)

Volumes 27 and 28 are missing. In this series of late years printed-form volumes "narr & cognovit" alternate with manuscript volumes.

Record of Judgment by Confession in Vacation, 1909–1913, 1 v. (33); Papers, 1890–1893, 2 f.b., L.V.; 1906–1909, 5 f.b.

Criminal Record, 1870–date, 7 v. (16–22)

Recognizance Record, 1878–1880, 1 v., L.V.; 1905–date, 1 v.

Index to Court Records, 1857–date, 4 v. each for plaintiff and defendant; 1869–1872, 1 v. (plaintiff), L.V.

Chancery Files, 1835–1860, in 10 f.b.

The papers have lately been put in new wrappers, 1860–date; nos. 1–3792, 108 f.b., nos. 1–1617, 53 f.b. (2 series).

Criminal Files, 1835–1898, 64 f.b., L.V ; 1900–date.

The recent files are kept in locked cases.

Common Law Files, 1832–1889, 192 f.b., L.V.; 1890–1898, 31 f.b.; also nos. 520–3045, 62 f.b.

Exceptions and Transcripts of Evidence to Supreme Court, 1881–1900, 20 f.b., L.V.

Naturalization Record, 1873–1888, 1 v., L.V.; 1894–1896, 1 v.

Naturalization Files, 1850–1870, 1 f.b., L.V.

DOCKETS AND FEE BOOKS

General Court Docket, 1878–1900, 5 v., L.V.; 1901–date, 4 v. (6–9)

Headings are: when commenced and entered, whole and term number, attorneys, parties, appealing party, court appealed from, action, process, remarks.

Judges' Docket, 1856–1870, 7 v., L.V.; 1872–1885, 1 v.; Chancery, 1870–1879, 3 v., L.V.; 1886–1891, 1 v.; Criminal, 1870–1890, 5 v., L.V.; 1892–1896, 1 v.; Common Law, 1870–1892, 5 v., L.V.; 1897–1908, 8 v.

Court Dockets, 1 v. each for 1851–1856, 1856–1858, 1866–1867, L.V.

Bar Docket, 1886–1890, 1 v., L.V.

Loose-Leaf Docket, 1909–1913, 1 v. each for criminal, chancery, and common law.

Clerks' Docket (common law, chancery and criminal), 1860–1903, 20 v., L.V.; 1900–1911, 1 v. (3)

These volumes contain number, attorney, parties, action, order last term, and order of court.

Judgment Docket, 1856–1879, 6 v., L.V.; 1875–1878, 1 v.; 1877–date, 11 v. (7–17)

Execution Docket, 1847–1852, 1 v.; 1856–1876, 4 v., L.V.

Executions, 1832–1900, 60 f.b., L.V.; 1901–date, 3 f.b.

Judgment Index, 1909–date, 1 v.

Docket of Mechanics' Liens, 1887–date, 2 v.

Claims for Lien, 1895–date, 5 f.b.

Fee Book, 1858–date, 46 v. (4–49)

Volumes 4–12, and 14–30 are in lower vault.

Fee Book for Transcripts, 1877–1898, 3 v., L.V.

Index to Fee Books, v. 9–13, 1 v., L.V.

Cost Bill Docket, 1837–1844, 1 v.
Register of Fees, 1856–1858, 2 v.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Justice of the Peace Transcript Record, 1899–date, 3 v.; 1862–1903, 7 v., L.V.
Justice of the Peace Transcripts, 1846–1900, c. 12 f.b., L.V.; 1901–1908, 2 f.b.
Criminal Transcripts, Justice of the Peace, 1902, 1 f.b.
Transcripts from Mattoon City Court, 1905–1913, 1 f.b.
Certified Transcript from the War Department of Depositions relating to the "Charleston Riot" of March, 1864—an ebullition of sympathy with the confederacy, 1 f.b.
Witness Record of Fees, 1907–date, 2 v.
Register of Fees Received (circuit clerk), 1873–1885, 1 v., L.V.; 1890–1892, 1 v., L.V.; 1897–date, 1 v.
Report of Fees of States Attorneys and Masters in Chancery, 1907–date.
States Attorneys' Reports, 1911–date, 1 f.b.
Masters' and Sheriffs' Certificates of Levy, Sale, and Redemption, 1859–1867; 1878–1880; 1897–1898, 3 f.b., all in L.V.
Certificates of Sale, 1838–1859, 2 f.b.; 1887–1892, 1 f.b., all in L.V.
Masters' Reports, 1874–1884, c. 1 f.b.; 1866–1890, 2 f.b., L.V.; 1904–date, 1 f.b.
Masters' Receipts, recent dates, 1 f.b.
These are receipts for sums distributed by masters in chancery.
Coroners' Inquests, 1901–1912, 4 f.b.
Also 2 f.b. in L.V.
Report of the Number of Prisoners in Jail, 1900–date, 1 f.b.
Jury Venires, 1870–1896, 1 f.b., L.V.; 1902–date, 1 f.b.
Recent Receipts to Sheriff for delivery of prisoners at penitentiary or reformatory, 2 f.b.
Grand Jury Reports, current, giving condition of jail, etc.
Miscellaneous Papers, 1839–1859, 1 f.b., L.V.; 1889–1909, 3 f.b.
Among these papers are odd case papers, subpœnas, bench warrants, etc.
Returned Fee Bills, 1902–1909, 2 f.b.
Witness Affidavits, 1903–1905, 1 f.b.
Appeal Bonds, 1876–1890, 1 f.b., L.V.

Circuit Clerk—Recorder

DEED AND MORTGAGE RECORDS

Entry Book, 1877–date, 14 v. (1–14)

Volumes 1–5, and 7 and 8 are in lower vault. These volumes contain number, date, grantor and grantee, instrument date, consideration, recorder's fees, and to whom document is delivered.

Deed Record, 1831–1857, 24 v. (A–X, 2 E's and J's; N and R are missing); 1857–date, 151 v. (1–151)

Mortgage Record, 1851–date, 112 v. (1–112), L.V.

Volumes 1, 2, 20, 26, 29, 32, 35, and 38 contain chattel mortgages.

Release Record, 1873–1883, 1 v. (1); 1869–1882, 1 v. (1); 1880–date, 31 v. (2–32)

Plat Book, 4 v.

General Index, 1831–1883, 7 v.; 1883–date, 6 v. (9–15) each for grantor and grantee.

A volume for 1831–1839 containing both grantor and grantee index, and a volume 1872–1878 are in L.V. Volume 10, 1892–1896, was not found.

Mortgage Index, 1851–date, 8 v. (1–8) each for mortgagor and mortgagee; 1876–1877, 1 v., L.V.

Chattel Mortgage Record, 1890–date, 36 v. (40–75)

Till v. 40 of the mortgage record, chattel mortgage volumes were numbered in the same series with real estate mortgages. The distinct chattel series begins with v. 40.

Index to Chattel Mortgages, 1885–1905, 1 v.; 1905–date, 1 v.

Corporation Record, 1906 *et seq.*

Record of articles of incorporation, etc.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Record of Certificates of Election of Odd Fellow Trustees, 1905–date, 1 v.

Record of Sheriffs' and Masters' Certificates of Levy and Sale, 1857–date, 7 v.

Surveyors' Record, 1835–1838, 1 v.; 1852–1854, 1 v.

Plats, 1836–1858, 1 f.b., L.V.

Record of Soldiers' Discharges, 1865–1889, 1 v., L.V.

Record of Town Treasurers' Bonds, 1890–date, 1 v.

Record of Collectors' Bonds, 1905–date, 1 v.; 1879–1903, 1 v., L.V.

Stallion Get Lien Record, 1890 *et seq.*, 1 v., L.V.

Railroad Construction Papers (notices of right of preëmption by Illinois Central and Big Four railroads), c. 1850–1880, 1 f.b., L.V.

Record of Mattoon Common Pleas Court, 1869–1872, 1 v. each, Court Record, Judges' Docket, Defendants' Index, Fee Book.

Mattoon Common Pleas Court Files, 1 f.b.

These are all in lower vault.

CRAWFORD COUNTY[1]

The county was set off from Edwards by act of 1816; the county seat is Robinson. The courthouse is in a public square and is supposed to be fireproof. The regular vaults are well equipped and an additional vault in the basement is used as a storage room for less important records.

County Clerk

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' AND SUPERVISORS' RECORDS

Order Book for Crawford County, 1817.

It contains: records of court for transaction of county business, February, 1817–September, 1819, relating to roads, ferries, taverns, etc., with a few entries relating to probate matters; record of marks and brands, February, 1817–January, 1818; circuit court records for September term, 1817, July term, 1819, and docket for October term, 1821. The book contains 75 p. unbound.

County Commissioners' Court Record, February, 1817–June, 1824, 1 v.

The contents are: orders for the appointment of commissioners to lay out roads; reports of commissioners; lists of jurors; licenses granted for taverns, ferries, etc. There are also some probate records. This volume is in the circuit clerk's vault; it contains 265 p. and is 8 x 14 inches.

County Commissioners' Record, 1834–1838, 1 v.

The volume is 8 x 14 inches, and cardboard bound.

Commissioners' Record, 1838–1847, 1 v.

This is a leather-bound volume, 8 x 14 inches.

County Commissioners' Court Record, 1848–1867, 2 v. (A–B)

The record contains: petitions for roads, appointment of viewers and their reports giving notes of surveys, etc.; petitions for ferry, tavern, and merchants' licenses, with orders granting them and fixing rates; lists of grand and petit jurors; orders to pay claims against county, etc. The volumes are full size.

Supervisors' Record, 1868–date, 5 v. (C–G)

Road Petitions and Reports, c. 1840–1868, 3 f.b.

These files contain petitions, reports of surveys, plats, etc.

[1] Examined March, 1912.

Board of Supervisors' Papers, 1882–date, 29 f.b.

County Commissioners' Report Record, September, 1824–September, 1834, 1 v.

This volume contains grand and petit jury lists, records relating to roads, to licenses, to county orders, etc. About 300 p., 8 x 14 inches, in the circuit clerk's vault.

Jury List, 1872–date, 1 v.

COUNTY COURT RECORDS

County Court Record, 1872–date, 5 v. (A–E)

Default Record, 1872–date, 1 v.

Index to Court Records, 1872–date, 2 v. each for plaintiff and defendant.

County Court Files (common law, criminal, and insanity), 49 f.b.

Index to Files: Common Law, 1 v.; Criminal, 1 v.

Insane and Conservators' Record, 1886–1893, 1 v.

It includes record of trial and of bond of conservator when one is appointed.

County Court Judges' Docket, 1895–date, 2 v.

Execution Docket, 1862–date, 1 v. (B)

Fee Book (common law and criminal), 1881–date, 6 v. (5–10)

TAXATION RECORDS

Assessment and Statement of Taxes (abstract of assessment [?]), 1893–date, 1 v. (1)

Statement of Assessment and Taxes, 1894–date, 2 v.

School Plat Book, c. 1906–date, 1 v. (B)

Tax Books (real and personal property), 1827–1829.

They are tied in one small bundle and placed in the top pigeonhole, basement vault.

Assessors' Books, 1844–date.

Collectors' Books, 1844–date.

Board of Review Record, 1899–date, 1 v. (1)

Board of Review Complaint Docket, 1899–date, 1 v. (1)

Tax Judgment Record, 1862–1879, 3 v. (B–D)

Tax Sale Record, 1849–1854, 1 v. (2)

This is a cardboard bound volume, 8 x 14 inches.

Tax Sale Record, 1855–1879, 4 v. (A–D)

Tax Judgment, Sale, Redemption and Forfeiture Record, 1880–date, 7 v.

Record of Forfeited Lands, 1872–1881, 2 v. (1–2)
Record of Affidavits for Tax Deeds, 1882–date, 3 v. (A–C)

RECORDS OF VITAL STATISTICS

Marriage Record, February, 1817–date, 3 v. (A–C)

Volume A, 1817–1850, gives the names of parties, date of license, date of marriage, name of person officiating, date registered; v. B, 1850–1874, gives the same information; v. C, 1874–1911, gives also the ages of each party, the number of the license, and the person giving consent to marriage.

Register of Marriages, January, 1878–date, 2 v. (1–2); Index, 1 v. each for male and female.

Board of health form.

Record of Applications for Marriage License, 1905–date, 5 v. (1–5)

Marriage Licenses, 1843–date, 18 f.b.

Register of Births, 1878–date, 4 v.; Index, 1 v.

Register of Deaths, 1878–date, 3 v.; Index, 1 v.

Coroners' Death Record, July, 1911–date, 1 v.

This is a variation of the board of health form of death record.

Birth Reports, 1878–date, 9 f.b.

Death Reports, 1878–date, 5 f.b.

Record of Physicians' Certificates, 1877–date, 2 v. (1–2)

The second volume, 1907–date, contains dentists' certificates also.

Register of Physicians and Accoucheurs, 1877–1910, 1 v. (1)

The headings are date registered, signature, school of practice, residence, age, nativity, number of years practice, date of certificate of state board, and on what grounds issued, date of diploma or license.

Census Returns of Crawford County, 1835 and 1840.

They include "an accurate statement of the whole number of persons resident in the county of Crawford, together with the number and kind of manufactures, mills, machines, and distilleries." The white inhabitants are divided into ten classes for both sexes; Negroes and mulattoes into four classes. These returns are in pigeonhole no. 58 of basement vault.

Census of Pensioners for Revolutionary or Military Services, with their names, ages, and place of residence, 1841.

This is in basement vault.

Census of the United States, 1840, 1 v.

This is in basement vault.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Poll Books, and Abstracts of Votes, 1838–1885.

These are tied in bundles and placed in pigeonholes in basement vault.

Register of County Officers, 1847–date, 1 v. (A)

Record of Assessors' Bonds, 1898–date, 1 v. (1)

Justices' and Constables' Bond Record, 1881–date, 1 v. (A)

Semi–Annual Report Record (report of county officers), 1893–date, 1 v. (1)

Swamp Land Record, c. 1867, 1 v.

The volume contains an abstract, with plats, of the swamp and overflowed lands in the county, and a record of their sale.

County Clerk—Probate

PROBATE COURT RECORDS

"Probate Record, 1821–1829," 1 v.

This contains a record of proceedings of court, appointment of administrators, action on claims filed against estates; also inventories, appraisement and sale bills, with final reports of settlements of administrators. The volume has 179 p., 8 x 14 inches, and is bound in cardboard.

"Probate Record No. 2, 1829–1834," 1 v.

The volume contains letters and bonds of administrators, executors, and guardians, inventories, appraisements and sale bills, reports of administrators, etc. Cardboard bound v., 8 x 14 inches, 310 p.

"Probate Record No. 3, 1833–1836," 1 v.

Contents include appraisements and sale bills, letters of administration, administrators' bonds, claims against estates, etc., December, 1833–October, 1835. Cardboard bound v., 8 x 14 inches, 327 p.

"Probate Record D, 1835–1839," 1 v.

Settlements, orders to pay claims, appraisements and sale bills, etc., December, 1835–January, 1839. The volume contains 227 p., 8 x 14 inches, and is bound in cardboard and indexed.

"Probate Record No. 5, 1837–1839," 1 v.

The contents are mainly appraisement and sale bills, with records of claims allowed by courts, settlements of administrators, etc., October, 1837–May, 1839; 235 p., 8 x 14 inches, cardboard-bound volume; indexed.

"Probate Record No. 2, 1839–1840," 1 v.

Volume contains appraisements and sale bills, claims filed and allowed, settlements by administrators and executors. It has 229 p., 8 x 14 inches, and is bound in cardboard.

"Probate Record D, June, 1843–April, 1847," 1 v.

The volume contains inventories, appraisements and sale bills, list of claims against estates, and reports and settlements of administrators and executors; 8 x 14 inches, cardboard bound.

Probate Court Record, November, 1840–March, 1845, 1 v.

This is an unbound, indexed volume, 8 x 14 inches, containing sale bills, appraisements and inventories, settlements and reports of administrators, etc., claims filed against estates and claims allowed by court, etc. Pages 199–366, containing records from January–September, 1842, are missing.

"Probate Record 6, 1849," 1 v.

This is a cardboard-back volume, 8 x 14 inches, containing a record of appraisements and sale bills, settlements, etc., September–November, 1849.

Probate Journal, November, 1845–December, 1849, 1 v.

The contents are: inventories, appraisements, and sale bills; administrators' settlements, etc.; claims filed against estates; miscellaneous orders of the court. It is a full-sized volume.

Probate Court Record, December, 1849–date, 33 v. (A–Z, 1–7)

Probate Files, c. 1830–date: Estates, 118 f.b.; Guardianships, 40 f.b.

Index to Probate Files: Estates, 1 v.; Guardians, 1 v.

DOCKETS AND FEE BOOKS

Guardians' Docket, 1848–1893, 1 v.

This is a leather-bound, indexed volume, 8 x 14 inches, with headings for names of ward and guardian, date of letters, amount of bond, sureties, remarks, etc.

Probate Judges' Docket, 1864–1869, 1 v.; 1889–date, 12 v. (N–Y)

Headings: name of estate and of claimant, kind of claim and amount, and order of court.

Estate Docket, 1850–1893, 1 v. (A)

The volume is labeled "Docket," and is ruled for name of estate and of administrator, date of letters, amount of bond, names of sureties, names of widow and heirs, date of inventory and sale bill, amount and remarks.

Administrators' and Executors' Docket, 1894–1899, 1 v. (B)

The contents are same as above.

"Probate Judgment Docket, 1845–1849," 1 v.

Name of claimant and name of estate, amount of debt, and entry as to proceedings. The volume is 8 x 14 inches with cardboard back.

Probate Judgment Docket, 1859–1864, 1 v. (A); 1876–date, 7 v. (G–M)

Probate Fee Book, 1862–date, 7 v. (A–G)

RECORDS OF WILLS, BONDS, AND LETTERS

Record of Wills, 1815–1850, 1 v.; 1850–date, 4 v.

The earliest volume measures 8 x 14 inches, and is cardboard bound.

Record of Letters of Executors, Administrators, and Guardians, 1835–1840, 1 v.; 1840–1848, 1 v.

Bond Record, May, 1844–May, 1849, 1 v.

The volume is unlabeled. It contains bonds of administrators, executors, etc.

Record of Bonds and Letters (administrators, executors, and guardians), 1848–1857, 1 v.

Record of County Officers: Bonds and Oaths, and Miscellaneous, 1 v.

Pages 1–159, 1850–1854, contain administrators' settlements or current accounts; pp. 160–439, administrators', executors' and guardians' bonds, with letters from about 1855–1890; pp. 440–560, bonds and oaths of county officers, 1890–1910.

Miscellaneous Record, 1910–date, 1 v. (B)

Administrators' Record, 1858–date, 5 v. (B–F)

Volumes B and C are in the basement.

Record of Administrators' and Guardians' Bonds and Letters, 1854–1858, 1 v.

Executors' Record, February, 1878–April, 1879, 1 v. (B)

The volume contains 285 p., only 15 of which are used.

Executors' Record, August, 1879–March, 1896, 1 v. (C)

Guardians' Record, 1858–date, 5 v. (B–F)

Volumes B and C are in basement vault.

INVENTORIES, APPRAISEMENTS, AND SALE BILLS

Appraisement, Inventory, and Sale Bill Record, 1850–1871, 3 v. (A–C)

Inventory Record, 1871–1874, 1 v. (D)

Guardians' Inventory Record, 1873–1874, 1 v.

Appraisement Record, 1868–1874, 1 v. (D)

Sale Bill Record, 1869–1874, 2 v. (D–E)

From 1874 to 1911, the substance of these papers was recorded in the probate journal and no other record of them was kept.

Appraisement Record, April, 1911–date, 1 v. (1)

REPORT RECORDS, ETC.

Administrators' and Executors' Report Record, 1880–date, 3 v. (1–3)

Administrators', Executors', and Guardians' Accounts Current, 1864–1874, 1 v. (B)

Guardians' Accounts Current, 1868–date, 3 v.

Administrators' Accounts Current Record, August, 1871–May, 1876, 1 v. (A)

Administrators' and Executors' Accounts Current Record, 1876–date, 5 v. (E–I)

At the top of the page is the name of estate and of administrator. The record gives date of death, date of letters of administration, name of widow and heirs, items of appraisement, and sale bill and references to their place of record; also list of claims paid, amount allowed widow, etc.

Administrators' Accounts Current Record, 1859–1862, 1 v.

Guardians' Report Record, 1880–date, 4 v. (1–4)

Widows' Award Record, 1911–date, 1 v.

Administrators' Decree and Report Record, 1878–date, 1 v. (1)

This contains a record of petition to sell real estate for debts, decree of court ordering sale, and report of sale by administrator.

Record of Administrators' Bonds for Sale of Real Estate, 1892–date, 1 v. (1)

Clerk of the Circuit Court

CIRCUIT COURT RECORDS

Circuit Court Record, September, 1817–April, 1828, 1 v.

This is a record of common law, chancery, and criminal cases, 367 p., 8 x 14 inches, cardboard binding.

Circuit Court Record: Common Law, Chancery, and Criminal, 1828–1872, 7 v.; Chancery, 1872–date, 17 v.; Common Law and Criminal, 1872–1886, 3 v.; Criminal, 1886–date, 2 v.; Common Law, 1886–date, 4 v.

Circuit Court Record, May, 1825–September, 1833, 1 v.

230 p., 8 x 14 inches, cardboard binding. In the back, covering 52 p., are copies of letters written by officers of the Bank of Vincennes and other

banks, to clients and to the secretary of the treasury of the United States, June, 1820–September, 1821.

Confession Record (confession of judgment), 1894–date, 1 v. (1)

Default Record, 1877–date, 1 v. (1)

Index to Court Records, 1858–date, 4 v. each for plaintiff and defendant.

There is also a "Court Index," 1817–1858, 1 v. each for plaintiff and defendant. The index gives names of parties, cause of action, and volume and page reference.

Circuit Court Minute Book, September, 1833–August, 1847, 1 v.

Names of parties, cause of action, and brief notes on case are entered. The volume measures 8 x 14 inches, and is cardboard bound.

Circuit Court Files (chancery, common law, and criminal), 1818–date, 251 f.b.

Except in the very early files, the criminal cases are kept separate from common law and chancery cases; since 1910 the common law and chancery cases have been filed separately.

Index to Files, 1 v.

The index lists name of plaintiff and defendant, kind of action and number of filingbox.

DOCKETS, FEE BOOKS, ETC.

Judges' Docket, 1859–1869, 2 v. (B–C); 1878–1881, 1 v.; 1886–date, 5 v. (7–11)

Fee Book (chancery, common law, and criminal), 1879–date, 15 v. (I–L, 1–11)

Execution Docket, 1827–date, 5 v. (A–E)

Docket of Mechanics' Liens, 1887–date, 1 v. (1)

Justice of the Peace Transcript Record, 1848–date, 3 v. (1–3)

Circuit Clerk—Recorder

DEED AND MORTGAGE RECORDS

Entry Book, 1893–date, 5 v. (C–G)

Deed Record, 1816–date, 87 v. (1–87)

Index to Deeds, 8 v. each for grantor and grantee.

The early deed records contain several records of manumissions of slaves and of slavery indentures.

Mortgage Record, 1852–date, 75 v. (1–75)

Mortgages earlier than 1852 are recorded in the deed records.

Release Record, 1889–date, 2 v. (1–2)

Plat Book, 1882–date, 2 v. (1–2)

Lease Record, 1905–1908, 1 v. (1)

This contains oil and gas leases, etc. Recent leases are recorded in the miscellaneous record.

Index to Marginal Releases and Assignments, 1905–date, 1 v. (1)

Chattel Mortgage Record, 1877–date, 22 v.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Certificate Record, 1850–date, 4 v. (1–4)

The record contains sheriffs' and masters' certificates of levy and sale.

Surveyors' Record, 1863–date, 2 v. (1–2)

Record of United States Surveys, 1874, 1 v.

This volume contains a record of field notes and plats locating corners of sections and quarter sections, etc.

Collectors' Bond Record, 1868–date, 2 v.

Record of Stallion Certificates, 1910–date, 1 v.; Renewals, 1911–date, 1 v. (2)

Miscellaneous Record, 1887–date, 25 v.

School Commissioners' Record (section 16, township 7, range 11), 1834–1850, 1 v.

Contents: record of appointment of commissioners, surveys and plats of lands; record of petitions to sell lands with list of petitioners; record of sales including list of purchasers, description of lands sold, etc.

CUMBERLAND COUNTY[1]

Cumberland county was formed in 1843 from Coles; the county seat is Toledo. The housing of the records in Cumberland county is decidedly inadequate for their protection against fire. The vaults of the county and circuit clerks also serve as offices, and are heated by stoves which rest directly on wooden flooring and are near wooden desks and furniture. The courthouse is emphatically not fireproof. It was rebuilt after a fire in 1885, the old brick walls being utilized at least partly. There is a great deal of inflammable woodwork around the vaults and it is doubtful if they could withstand a fire from without better than one from within. The records almost without exception date from 1885. Earlier books and papers were destroyed in the fire.

County Clerk

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' AND SUPERVISORS' RECORDS

Supervisors' Record, 1885–date, 3 v.

Supervisors' Papers, 1886–date, in p.h.

Claim Record, 1890–1894, 1 v.

The headings are number of claim, to whom due, date, for what, amount, date, receipt.

COUNTY COURT RECORDS

County Court Record, 1885–date, 3 v.

This record includes petitions for sale of real estate.

Record of Judgment by Confession, 1912–date, 1 v.

Index to Court Records, 1885–date, 1 v. each for plaintiff and defendant.

County Court Files, 1885–date, c. 10 f.b.

Conservators' and Insanity Record, 1885–1893, 1 v.

The form includes a court record, conservators' record and bond record.

Insanity Record, 1893–1896, 1 v.

A record of trials for insanity.

[1] Examined February, 1914.

Naturalization Record, 1892–1894, 1 v.
There are but three entries in the volume.

General Docket, 1886–date, 1 v.
There is only one entry.

Judges' Docket, 1885–1901, 1 v. (1); 1901–date, 1 v. (2)
Petitions to sell real estate are docketed in this volume.

Clerks' Docket, 1886–1902, 1 v.
Judges' Docket, Insanity, 1896–date, 1 v. (1)
Judgment and Execution Docket, 1885–date, 1 v.
Executions, 1888–date, 1 f.b.
Fee Book, 1892–1909, 1 v.
Criminal Fee Book, 1886–1901, 1 v.; 1901–1907, 1 v.; 1911–date, 1 v.
The last two volumes are common law and criminal fee books.

Conservators' and Insanity Fee Book, 1894–date, 3 v.
Register of Jurors, 1887–date, 1 v.

TAXATION RECORDS

Abstracts of Assessment, 1886–date, 2 v.
Docket of Rates and Amounts Wanted, 1885–date, 1 v.
Railroad, Telegraph and Telephone Schedules, recent dates, 6 f.b.
Record of School Plats, 1885–date, 1 v.
District Road Tax Lists, 1902–date, 10 f.b.
Railroad Objections to Assessments, 1885–date, 3 f.b.
Assessors' Books, 1903–date.
Collectors' Books, 1886–date.
Railroad Tax Book, 1884–1895, 1 v.; 1895–date, 1 v.
Telegraph Tax Book, 1885–date, 2 v.
Board of Review Record, 1899–date, 1 v.
Board of Review Complaint Docket, 1907–date, 1 v.
Delinquent Tax Book, 1885–1909, 1 v.
Tax Judgment, Sale and Redemption Record, 1885–date, 25 v.
Record of Affidavits for Tax Deeds, 1887–1890, 1 v.; 1891–date, 1 v.

RECORDS OF VITAL STATISTICS

Register of Marriages, 1885–date, 2 v.
Marriage License Record, 1885–1893, 1 v.; 1890–1907, 2 v.; 1897–1907, 1 v.; 1904–1913, 2 v.

Record of Applications for Marriage License, 1887–date, 3 v.
Register of Births, 1885–date, 3 v.; Index, 1 v.
Register of Still Births, 1884–1904, 1 v.
Register of Deaths, 1885–date, 3 v.; Index, 1 v.
Record of Physicians' Certificates, 1886–1906, 2 v.; 1898–1909, 1 v.
Register of Physicians, 1884–date, 1 v.
Register of Dentists, 1888, 1 v.
There are only two or three entries in the volume.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Certificates of Election and of Nomination, 1894–1911, 1 f.b.
Bonds of Town Assessors and Collectors, 1 f.b.
Register of Commissions, 1887–date, 1 v.
Magistrates' Reports to County Court, 1890–1903, 1 f.b.
Miscellaneous Record, 1899–date, 1 v.
The volume contains records of licenses, etc.
Estray Record, 1887–date, 1 v.
Record of Bonds of Town Assessor and Supervisor of Assessments, 1899–1911, 1 v.
Accounts of Births and Deaths, 1902–date, 1 v.
Register of County Clerks' Receipts and Expenditures, 1886–date, 2 v.
Record of Ballots Issued, 1904–1906, 1 v.
Miscellaneous Abstracts of Votes, Marriage Licenses, etc., 1896–1902.

County Clerk—Probate

PROBATE COURT RECORDS

Probate Journal, 1885–date, 8 v. (1–8)
Estate Papers, 1885–date, 56 f.b.
Guardians' Papers, 1885–date, 26 f.b.

DOCKETS AND FEE BOOKS

Probate Judgment Docket, 1885–date, 2 v.; Index.
Probate Clerks' Docket, 1885–1890, 1 v.
Probate Estate Docket, 1885–1890, 1 v. (1)
Probate Docket, 1888–1910, 1 v. (2); 1892–date, 8 v. (3–10)
Estate Fee Book, 1909–1911, 1 v.; 1911–date, 1 v.

Administrators' Fee Book, 1899–1909, 1 v.
Guardians' Fee Book, 1885–1895, 1 v.; 1909–date, 2 v.

RECORDS OF WILLS, BONDS, AND LETTERS

Record of Wills, 1885–date, 2 v.
Record of Administrators' Bonds, 1895–date, 1 v.
Administrators' Record, 1885–date, 2 v.
Administrators' Record, de bonis non, 1887–1909, 1 v.
Executors' Record, 1886–date, 1 v.
Guardians' Record, 1885–date, 2 v.
Record of Proof of Posting Notices, 1886–1905, 2 v.
The second volume has but one entry.

INVENTORIES, APPRAISEMENTS, SALE BILLS, ETC.

Inventory Record, 1885–date, 3 v.
Guardians' Inventory Record, 1886–1905, 1 v.
Appraisement Record, 1885–date, 3 v.
Sale Bill Record, 1884–date, 1 v.
Record of Accounts Current of Estates, 1886–1893, 1 v.
Report Record, 1886–1897, 1 v.
Administrators' Report Record, 1885–date, 2 v.
Guardians' Report Record, 1886–date, 3 v.
Widows' Relinquishment and Selection Record, 1885–date, 2 v.

Clerk of the Circuit Court

CIRCUIT COURT RECORDS

Circuit Court Record, 1885–date, 14 v. (1–14)
Record of Judgment by Default, 1904–1911, 1 v.
Record of Judgment by Confession, 1894–date, 2 v. (7–8)
Index to Court Records, 1887–date, 2 v. each for plaintiff and defendant.
Circuit Court Files (common law, criminal, and chancery), 1885–date, 126 f.b.

DOCKETS, FEE BOOKS, ETC.

General Docket, 1886–date, 3 v.
Clerks' Docket, 1886–date, 20 v.
Judges' Docket, 1885–date, 7 v.

Entry of Petitions for Titles in Cumberland County, 1885–1899, 1 v.
Master in Chancery Docket, 1886–date, 1 v.
Judgment and Execution Docket, 1886–date, 4 v.
Docket of Mechanics' Liens, 1891–date, 2 v.
Criminal Fee Book, 1886–date, 4 v.
Chancery Fee Book, 1886–date, 5 v.
Fee Book in Judgment by Confession, 1887–1899, 1 v.
Common Law Fee Book, 1886–date, 5 v.
Transcript Fee Book, 1886–1899, 1 v.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Record of Transcripts from Justice of the Peace, 1882–date, 1 v.
Miscellaneous Papers, 1886–date.
Venires, sheriffs' certificates of levy, justice of the peace transcripts, etc.
Indictment Record, 1894–date, 1 v.
Register of Grand and Petit Jurors, 1886–date, 1 v.

Circuit Clerk—Recorder

DEED AND MORTGAGE RECORDS

Entry Book, 1885–date, 6 v.
Deed Record, 45 v. (3–47)
Sheriffs' Deed Record, 1886–date, 1 v.
Masters' Deed Record, 1907–date, 1 v.
Tax Deed Record, 1886–date, 1 v.
Mortgage Record, 1885–date, 37 v.
Release Record, 1885–date, 12 v.
Plat Book, 1911, 1 v.
Record of Oil and Gas Leases, 1905–date, 4 v.
General Index, 1885–date, 3 v. each for grantor and grantee.
Index to Mortgages, 1885–date, 2 v. each for grantor and grantee.
Chattel Mortgage Record, 1885–date, 16 v.
Record of Affidavits of Extensions of Chattel Mortgages, 1889–1910, 1 v.

CERTIFICATES OF LEVY, SALE, AND REDEMPTION

Record of Masters' Certificates of Sale and Redemption, 1886–date, 1 v.

Record of Sheriffs' Certificates of Sale, 1889–1908, 1 v.
Record of Certificates of Purchase, 1909–date, 1 v.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Surveyors' Record, 1884–date, 3 v.
Stallion Register, 1911–date, 1 v.; Renewals, 1 v.
Lien on Gets (stallion record), 1889, 1 v.
Collectors' Bond Record, 1885–date, 1 v.
Register of Fees Received (circuit clerk), 1886–date, 3 v.
Register of Sheriffs' Fees, 1873–1898, 1 v.
Sheriffs' Execution Docket, 1887–1891, 1 v.
Sheriffs' Process Docket, 1 v. (1)
Jailors' Record, 1882–1891, 1 v.
Miscellaneous Record, 1886–date, 4 v. (1–4)

DE KALB COUNTY[1]

De Kalb county was formed out of Kane in 1837; the county seat is Sycamore. The records in De Kalb county are in excellent condition. The courthouse and vaults are fireproof, the vaults being two-story affairs and well equipped with steel furniture. The records, files, etc. in both offices are well arranged and extremely well cared for. The county clerk has begun a loose-leaf probate record which permits all records relating to each estate to be kept together. For a small county the plan appears good.

County Clerk

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' AND SUPERVISORS' RECORDS

County Commissioners' Court Record, July, 1837–November, 1849, 2 v.

The volumes contain: record of commissioners' proceedings; appointment of road supervisors; record of boundaries of road and school districts; licenses and rates for taverns; reports of road supervisors' reports and field notes; list of grand and petit jurors, etc. The volumes are indexed for records relating to roads.

Supervisors' Record, December, 1849–date, 7 v. (A–G)

County Commissioners' Papers, 1837–1850, 3 f.b. (12, 13, 15), L.V.

Supervisors' Papers, 1850–1908, 92 f.b., L.V.; 1909–date, 5 f.b., U.V.

Register of County Orders, 1849–date, 7 v.

Jury List, 1872–date, 1 v. (1)

COUNTY COURT RECORDS

County Court Record, 1863–date, 5 v. (A–E)

Index to Court Records, 1863–date, 1 v. each for plaintiff and defendant.

Recognizance Record, December, 1910–date, 1 v. (1)

Confession Record, 1894–date, 1 v.

[1] Examined January, 1912.

County Court Files (common law and criminal), 1862–date, 30 f.b.
The cases are filed by general numbers, 1–1950.

Drainage Record, 1906–date, 2 v.
The record contains assessments, deeds for right of way, etc.

Special Assessment Papers, 1895–date, 9 f.b.
These relate to the townships of De Kalb, Sycamore, Genoa, and Sandwich.

Insane and Conservators' Record, 1 v. (A)
The insanity record covers the years, 1880–1893; the conservators' record the years, 1880–1900.

Insanity Record, 1894–date, 1 v. (B)
Naturalization Record, 1864–1906, 7 v.
Naturalization Papers, 1863–1906, 27 p.h., L.V.
Clerks' Docket, 1863–date, 12 v.
Judges' Docket, 1863–date, 12 v.
Judgment Docket, 1863–date, 2 v. (A–B)
Execution Docket, 1863–date, 2 v. (A–B)
Insanity Docket, 1893–date, 2 v. (1–2)
Fee Book, 1863–date, 3 v. (A–C)
Register of Jurors, 1866–date, 1 v. (A)

TAXATION RECORDS

Abstract of Assessment and Taxes, 1871–1899, 3 v.
Statement of Assessment and Taxes to Auditor, 1862–1889, in f.b. 20.
Abstract of Taxes in De Kalb County, 1857–1889, in f.b. 20.
"Rate Book," 1908–date, 1 v. (1)
Apparently a docket of rates and taxes.

Land Entry Books, c. 1840–1855, 10 v.
The townships of Sycamore, Squaw Grove, Paw Paw, Genoa, Shabana, Somonauk, Kingston, De Kalb, Clinton, and South Grove are allotted one volume each. The record contains names of owners, date of entry, amount and description of land, and number of acres.

"School Lands Taxable," 1846, 1 v.
The names of purchasers, the date of sale, and the amount and location of land are recorded.

School District Plat Book, 1858, 1 v.
Road Tax Lists, 1871–date, in lower vault.
The lists are tied in bundles and labeled.

Assessment of Railroad Property by State Board of Equalization, 1873–1888, in f.b. 20.

Railroad Schedules of Values, 1855–1909, in bundles in lower vault; 1910–date, 4 f.b., U.V.

Assessors' Books, 1871–date.

There are also assessors' lists for 1839–1842 and 1849.

Collectors' Books, 1851–date.

Railroad Tax Book, 1855–date, 10 v.

Telegraph Tax Book, 1884–date, 3 v.

Delinquent Tax Lists, 1853–1896, 25 v., L.V.

Tax Judgment Record, 1859–1880, 3 v. (B–D)

Tax Sale Record and Tax Sale and Redemption Record, 1848–1880, 5 v. (A–E)

Tax Judgment, Sale, Redemption, and Forfeiture Record, 1881–date, 6 v. (F–K)

Record of Affidavits for Tax Deeds, 1890–date, 1 v. (1)

Tax Sale Certificates, 1861–date.

The certificates for 1861–1907 are tied in bundles and placed in the lower vault; those for 1907–date, fill 3 f.b.

Affidavits for Tax Deeds, 1850–date, 3 f.b., L.V.

Treasurers' and Collectors' Accounts with County, 1874–date, 1 v.

RECORDS OF VITAL STATISTICS

Marriage Register A, 1837–1858, 1 v., indexed by males.

The register gives the names of contracting parties, date of marriage, name of officer, and when registered.

Marriage Register, 1858–1877, 4 v. (B–E), indexed by males.

This is a record of license and certificate of marriage.

Register of Marriages, December, 1877–date, 4 v.

Board of health form.

Record of Applications for Marriage License, 1904–date, 4 v.

Marriage Licenses, 1837–date, 72 f.b., L.V.

Register of Births, 1877–date, 5 v.

Birth Reports, 1878–1909, 18 p.h., L.V.

Register of Deaths, 1878–date, 4 v.

Death Reports, 1878–1909, 9 p.h.

Current birth and death reports, in office.

Veterinary License Record, 1899–date, 1 v. (1)

Register of Physicians and Accoucheurs, 1877–date, 1 v.

Record of Certificates of Registered Nurses, 1910–date, 1 v.

Physicians' and Dentists' Certificate Record, 1 v. (2)

The record contains physicians' certificates of graduation, 1901–date; certificates of examination of osteopaths by state board, 1899–date; certificates of examination of midwives by state board, 1902–date; certificates of examination of dentists by state board, 1900–date.

Physicians' Certificate Record, 1877–date, 1 v. (1)

Form for recording certificates of examination by state board.

Architects' Record, 1898–date, 1 v.

This is a record of licenses issued by state board.

Agricultural Statistics (by townships), 1890–date, L.V.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Election Papers, 1858–date, L.V.

These include poll books and tally sheets for 1858–1866.

Abstracts of Votes, 1870–1888, in f.b. 14.

Assessors' Bond Record, 1899–date, 1 v.

List of Justices and Constables, 1837–1859, 1 v.

Record of County Officers, 1858–date, 2 v.

This is a register of town and county officers elected, with dates of election and retirement.

Militia Rolls, c. 1861–1863, 1 f.b. (29)

War Bounty Certificates, etc., 1 f.b. (28)

Militia Roll Record, 1861, 1 v.

Bounty War Orders, 1863–1866, 1 v.

The headings are number of order, to whom issued, amount, when due, and when cancelled.

Treasurers' Register of Bounty and War Orders, 1863–1873, 1 v.

Contents similar to those of the preceding volume.

Record of Marks and Brands, 1899–date, 1 v.

Estray Record, 1848–1895, 2 v.

Estray Papers, 1850–1893, 1 f.b. (21)

Record of Swamp Land Sales, 1855, 1 v.

Swamp Land Record, 1843 [1853 ?], 1 v.

This contains "a list of swamps and overflowed lands as reported by Auditor, August, 1843."

Swamp Land Papers, c. 1855–1895, in f.b. 21.

These are mainly reports by drainage commissioners.

County Clerk—Probate

PROBATE COURT RECORDS

Probate Court Record, 1839–date, 34 v. (1–3, A–Y, 27–32)

A new system of recording probate papers has recently been adopted. A loose-leaf book is used and all papers pertaining to a given estate are kept at one place in the volume, instead of being recorded as formerly in half a dozen separate volumes.

Miscellaneous Probate Record, 1858–date, 10 v. (1–10)

Estate Files, 257 f.b.

These concern estates of deceased, minors, insane, etc. All probate papers are filed together. The estates, however, are not numbered prior to 1912.

Guardians' Index, 1 v. (1)

DOCKETS AND FEE BOOKS

Probate Judges' Docket, 1860–date, 56 v.

Estate Docket, 1857–1865, 1 v.

The headings are: name of estate; date of death; name of administrator; date of letters; bond (amount and sureties); names of heirs; date of filing inventory, etc.; where recorded; remarks. There are 300 p., blank after p. 59.

Probate Claim and Judgment Docket, 1859–date, 5 v. (1–5)

Index to above (direct and indirect), 2 v. (1–2)

Probate Fee Book, 1858–date, 9 v. (A–I)

RECORDS OF WILLS, BONDS, AND LETTERS

Record of Wills, 1862–date, 6 v. (1–6)

Administrators' Record, 1859–date, 7 v. (1–7)

Executors' Record, 1859–date, 5 v. (1–5)

Conservators' Record, 1901–date, 1 v. (B)

Guardians' Record, 1872–date, 3 v. (2–4)

Administrators' Record, de bonis non, 1901–date, 1 v. (1)

Administrators' Record, de bonis non, and will annexed, 1891–date, 2 v. (1–2)

INVENTORIES, APPRAISEMENTS, AND SALE BILLS

Inventory Record, 1859–date, 7 v. (A–G)

Guardians' Inventory Record, 1872–date, 2 v. (1–2)

Appraisement Bill Record, 1858–date, 8 v. (A–H)
Sale Record, 1859–date, 6 v.
This is a record of sale of both real and personal property.

REPORT RECORDS, ETC.

Guardians' Report Record, 1871–date, 5 v. (A–E)
Report Record, 1871–date, 8 v. (1–8)
Estate Ledger, 1858–date, 4 v. (1–4)
This is a record of amount of moneys received by administrator or executor, and register of claims allowed against estate. Volume 1 is labeled "Claim Ledger" and contains only the register of claims presented.
Widows' Relinquishment and Selection Record, 1869–October, 1910, 4 v. (A-D)
Widows' Award and Selection Record, 1910–date, 1 v. (1)

Clerk of the Circuit Court

CIRCUIT COURT RECORDS

Circuit Court Records, 1838–date, 44 v. (1–44)
All circuit court records are kept in same series and numbered consecutively. Common law, chancery, and criminal records are in same volumes up to 1870.
Index to Court Records, 1858–date, 3 v. each for plaintiff and defendant.
Circuit Court Files, 1838–date, 401 f.b.
Common law, chancery and criminal cases are kept in same boxes and filed by one general number.
Naturalization Record, 1853–1906, 7 v.
Naturalization Papers, 1884–1906, 2 f.b., L.V.

DOCKETS, FEE BOOKS, ETC.

Judges' Docket, 1902–1908.
After 1909 there is a loose-leaf clerks' and judges' docket.
Clerks' Dockets, 1850–1908, in lower vault.
Judgment Docket, 1837–1909, 10 v. (A–J)
Execution Docket, 1838–1908, 7 v. (A–G)
Judgment and Execution Docket, 1909–date, 1 v. (K)
Docket of Mechanics' Liens, 1886–date, 1 v. (2)
Fee Book, 1840–date, 27 v. (A–27)
Transcript Record, 1847–date, 4 v. (A–D)

Circuit Clerk—Recorder

DEED AND MORTGAGE RECORDS

Entry Book, 1847–date, 14 v. (A–N)
Deed Record, 1838–date, 117 v. (1–117)
Mortgage Record, 1847–date, 92 v. (1–92)
Plat Book, 1859–date, 5 v. (A–E); Index, 1 v.
General Index to Deeds (grantor and grantee), 1838–date.
General Index to Mortgages (mortgagor and mortgagee), 1847–date.
Tract Index, 1838–date, 14 v.
These are loose-leaf volumes.
Chattel Mortgage Record, 1861–date, 40 v. (7–46)
Chattel Mortgage Index, 1 v.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Assessors' Plats (dates not given), 1 v.
Township Boundary Plats, United States Survey, 1 v.
The volume contains plats and descriptions of lines and corners of sections.
Plat Book of De Kalb County, 1892, 1 v.
Land Entry Book, c. 1840–1855, 1 v.
Record of Certificates of Election of Trustees, 1895–date, 1 v. (1), indexed.
Such certificates were formerly recorded in miscellaneous record.
Soldiers' Discharge Record, 1864–1910, 1 v.
Collectors' Bond Record, 1850–date, 4 v. (A–D)
Register of Stallions, 1910–date, 1 v. (1): Renewals, 1911–date, 1 v. (1)
Miscellaneous Record, 1865–date, 5 v. (B–F)
Index to Miscellaneous Records, 1 v.
Register of Receipts and Expenditures (circuit clerk), 1874–date, 5 v.

DE WITT COUNTY[1]

The county was formed in 1839 out of McLean and Macon counties; the county seat is Clinton. The courthouse in De Witt is not fireproof and it is questionable if the vaults are so. As a result of the small size of the office vaults, many of the records and files have been stored in the basement, and only part of these in the basement vaults.

County Clerk

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' AND SUPERVISORS' RECORDS

County Commissioners' Record, May, 1839–June, 1859, 2 v. (A–B)

The contents concern regular county business: record of laying out of roads, with surveys and directions; orders on treasurer; list of grand and petit jurors, etc.

Supervisors' Record, September, 1859–date, 5 v. (C–G)

Commissioners' and Supervisors' Papers, 1839–1907, 50 f.b.

These papers are in the basement vault among various other files.

Supervisors' Papers, 1908–date, 14 f.b., in office vault.

Jury List, 1872–date, 2 v. (1–2)

COUNTY COURT RECORDS

County Court Record, 1872–date: Common Law, 3 v. (1–3); Criminal, 3 v. (1–3).

Record of Judgment by Confession, 1 v.

County Court Files, 1872–date, with probate files, 133 f.b.

Drainage Record, 1884–date, 10 v.

Insolvent Record, 1877–1901, 1 v. (1)

The record contains schedules of assets and liabilities of insolvent debtors.

Insanity Record, 1886–date, 2 v.

Naturalization Record, 1866–1906, 3 v.

County Court Docket (common law and criminal), 1872–date, 3 v.

Judgment Docket, 1872–date, 1 v.

[1] Examined March, 1912.

Execution Docket, 1872–date, 1 v. (1)

Insanity Docket, 1893–date, 1 v.

The headings are as follows: name of person; date of application for trial; names of witnesses, jurors, etc.; date of trial and order of court.

County Court Fee Book (common law and criminal), 1872–date, 3 v.

TAXATION RECORDS

Statement of Assessment, 1850–1901, 6 f.b., in basement; 1902–date, 2 f.b., in office vault.

Record of Assessment and Taxes, 1875–date, 4 v.

An abstract of assessment of property.

Docket of Amounts Wanted, 1881–date, 2 v. (A–B)

School Plats, 1881–date, 1 v.

Land Entry Book, 1829–1843, 1 v.

The contents include a record of lands entered in De Witt county (together with those which formerly lay in Macon county), giving date of entry, patentee, description, and location of land, amount and price of tract. This volume is labeled, "Marks and Brands" and in back of volume are recorded marks and brands, 1846–1882.

Railroad Tax Schedules, 1890–1902, 4 f.b., in basement; 1903–date, 3 f.b., in office vault.

Assessors' Books, 1839–date.

Collectors' Books, 1849–date.

Both assessors' and collectors' books for all years except the current one are in the basement.

Railroad Tax Book, 1877–date, 3 v.

Board of Review Complaint Docket, 1899–date, 1 v. (1)

Delinquent Tax Book, 1864–date, 35 v.

Tax Judgment and Sale Record, 1861–date, 15 v.

List of Lands Sold for Taxes, 1841–1849, 1 v.

Index to Tax Sales, 1858–date, 1 v. (A)

Record of Affidavits for Tax Deeds, 1874–date, 1 v. (B)

RECORDS OF VITAL STATISTICS

Marriage Record, 1839–1877, 3 v. (A–C)

The record includes names of parties, date of marriage, and name of person officiating.

Register of Marriages, 1878–date, 2 v. (D–E)

Board of health form.

Index to Marriage Records, 1839–date, 2 v., indexed by male only.

Marriage Licenses, 1839–date, 14 f.b., in vault.

Record of Applications for Marriage License, 1876–date, 13 v. (1–13)

Register of Births, 1878–date, 3 v. (1–3); Index, 2 v.

Register of Deaths, 1878–date, 1 v. (1); Index, 1 v.

Birth Reports, 1877–date, 5 f.b., in office vault.

Death Reports, 1877–date, 4 f.b., in office vault.

Record of Physicians' Certificates, 1877–date, 1 v. (1)

Architects' License Record, 1897–1903, 1 v.

Census of De Witt County, 1850, 1 v.; 1860, 1 v.

The headings include: name of every person in family; description (age, sex, color) and occupation of each male over fifteen years of age; value of real estate owned by person; place of birth; number of persons over twenty-one unable to read and write; number of deaf, dumb, blind, insane, paupers, and convicts.

Sixth Census of the United States, 1840, in office vault.

Compendium of Sixth Census, 1 v., in basement vault.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Poll Books and Abstracts of Votes, 1839–1880.

These are in some twenty filingboxes in the basement vault, and are mixed with various other papers.

Assessors' and Supervisors' Bond Record, 1899–date, 1 v.

List of Officers Elected, 1874–date, 1 v.

Estray Book, 1872–1896, 2 v.

Militia Roll Record, 1861–1862, 1 v. (A)

County Clerk—Probate

PROBATE COURT RECORDS

Probate Record, 1839–1859, 3 v. (A–C)

The volumes record: letters of administrators, executors, and guardians; inventories, appraisements and sale bills; widows' awards; claims against estates; settlements and reports; and all other probate records up to 1850. After that date wills and letters were recorded in another series.

Probate Record, 1859–date, 18 v. (4–22)

Court orders and decrees, and record of proceedings are given.

Probate Files, filed with common law and criminal papers in 133 f.b.

DOCKETS AND FEE BOOKS

Estate Docket, 1854–1874, 1 v. (A)

Probate Judgment Docket, 1854–date, 11 v. (1, and A–J)

Headings are: name of estate and of claimant; amount and nature of claim; date; order of court, etc. Some volumes in this series are labeled "judges' docket."

Probate Fee Book, 1857–date, 7 v. (A–H)

RECORDS OF WILLS, BONDS, AND LETTERS

Record of Letters and Wills, February, 1850–June, 1865, 1 v.

Wills, letters of administration, letters of guardianship, and letters testamentary are recorded.

Record of Proof of Notice to Claimants, 1868–date, 1 v. (1)

Administrators' Record, 1866–date, 6 v. (A–F)

Executors' Record, 1867–date, 3 v.

Conservators' Record, 1871–date, 2 v. (A–B)

Guardians' Record, 1866–date, 4 v. (1–4)

Record of Letters with Will Annexed, 1865–1901, 1 v. (B)

Letters, oaths, bonds, and copies of wills are recorded.

Record of Miscellaneous Bonds and Letters, 1876–1894, 1 v. (A)

The contents include bonds and letters of administrators de bonis non, and administrators with will annexed.

INVENTORIES, APPRAISEMENTS, SALE BILLS, ETC.

Record of Inventory, Appraisement and Sale Bills, 1859–c. 1880, 5 v. (A–E)

Inventory Record, 1881–date, 6 v. (F–K)

Appraisement and Sale Record, 1873–1878, 1 v. (F)

Appraisement Record, 1879–date, 4 v. (G–J)

Sale Record, 1879–date, 3 v. (G–I)

Guardians' Inventory Record, 1874–date, 3 v. (1–3)

REPORTS, ETC.

Probate Ledger, 1855–date, 4 v. (A–D)

The record is a ledger of claims allowed against estates.

Report Record, 1871–date, 8 v. (A–H)

Insolvent Estate Record, 1876–1894, 1 v.

Administrators' reports of the insolvency of estates and their requests to be discharged from duty are recorded.

Widows' Relinquishment and Selection Record, 1871–date, 3 v. (A–C)

Record of Proceedings on Petitions to Sell Real Estate, 1871–date, 4 v. (A–D)

Clerk of the Circuit Court

CIRCUIT COURT RECORDS

Circuit Court Record: Common Law, Chancery, and Criminal, 1839–1856, 3 v. (1–3); Chancery, 1856–date, 26 v. (1–26); Common Law, 1856–date, 11 v. (4–14); Criminal, 1856–date, 5 v. (A–E)

There is an index to each volume; no general index is kept.

Record of Defaults, 1854–date, 3 v. (1–3)

Circuit Court Files (common law, chancery, and criminal), 1839–1898, 660 f.b., in basement vault; 1899–date, 98 f.b., in office vault.

Index to Court Files (chancery and common law), 2 v. each for plaintiff and defendant.

The headings are names of parties, kind of action, and number of filing-box.

Naturalization Record: Declaration of Intention, 1854–1902, 1 v.; Final Certificate, 1860–1888, 2 v.; Minors, 1882–1886, 1 v.; Discharged Soldiers, 1864–1871, 1 v.

DOCKETS, FEE BOOKS, ETC.

Circuit Court Dockets, 1839–1900, in basement; 1900–date, in vault.

Judgment Docket, 1853–1875, 2 v. (A–B)

Execution Docket, 1853–1880, 2 v. (A–B)

Judgment and Execution Docket, 1875–date, 4 v. (C–F)

Docket of Mechanics' Liens, 1887–date, 1 v. (1)

Fee Book, 1839–date, 25 v.

The fee books, 1839–1853, are labeled "Ledger" and are in a vault in the basement.

Justice of the Peace Transcript Record, 1854–date, 3 v. (A–C); 1839–1853, 1 v., in basement vault.
States Attorneys' Report Record, 1872–1906, 1 v. (1)

Circuit Clerk—Recorder

DEED AND MORTGAGE RECORDS

Entry Book, 1839–date, 10 v. (1–10)
Deed Record, 1839–date, 91 v. (A–Z, 1–65)
Mortgage Record, 1854–date, 50 v. (1–50)
Release Record, 1869–date, 10 v. (A–J)
Plat Book, 1871–date, 1 v. (A)
General Index (grantor and grantee), 1839–date, 15 v.
Chattel Mortgage Record, 1861–date, 33 v. (1–33)
Volumes 1–18 are in basement.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Record of Certificates of Levy, Sale, and Redemption, 1852–date, 3 v.
Collectors' Bond Record, 1870–date, 3 v.
Stallion Register, 1910–date, 1 v.; Renewals, 1911–date, 1 v.

DOUGLAS COUNTY[1]

Douglas county was set off from Coles county in 1859; the county seat is Tuscola. The county has just occupied a new fireproof courthouse, situated in the middle of the public square. The vaults are large, well lighted, with plenty of room for extension of the filing equipment in future years. Tax books, and a few old court records, together with some old files were in the basement, but the clerks intended to move them to a better place.

County Clerk

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' AND SUPERVISORS' RECORDS

County Roads Journal, 1859–1868, 1 v.

The volume contains proceedings of the county commissioners' court, grants in aid of bridges, road petitions and reports, volunteer bounty business, record of appointment of judges of election and establishment of precincts, bonds of officials, lists of county orders, school reports, etc.

Supervisors' Record, 1868–date, 5 v. (A–E)

Supervisors' Papers, 1859–1880.

Claims allowed, petitions for roads, school tax assessments, etc. are included. The papers are placed in three dry goods boxes in basement.

Record of Petitions for County Aid to Bridges, 1894–1910, 1 v.

Civil Service Record, 1905–1910, 1 v.

This is a record of rules adopted by the commission.

Register of County Orders Presented for Payment, 1865, 1 v.

Only a few pages have been used.

Register of County Orders Countersigned, 1869–1904, 3 v., in basement.

Register of County Orders and Jury Certificates Paid, 1887–1904, 2 v., in basement.

Register of County Orders, 1868–date, 4 v.

Register of Payments to County Pensioners, 1895–date, 1 v.

Jury List, 1872–date, 1 v.

The volume lists names of jurors, residence, when selected and drawn, when served.

[1] Examined January–February, 1914.

COUNTY COURT RECORDS

County Court Record, 1872–date: Common Law, 5 v.; Criminal, 5 v.

Record of Default and Judgment, 1872–1892, 1 v.

Index to Court Records (plaintiff and defendant), 1872–1878, 2 v.; 1872–1886, 2 v.

County Court Files: Common Law, 1872[?]–date, 19 f.b.; Criminal, 1900–date, 10 f.b.

Earlier criminal case papers were not found.

Insanity Record, 1883–date, 1 v.

Petition, appearance of the person arraigned, jury's or commission's verdict, and court order are recorded.

Findings and Order in Lunacy Proceedings, 1893–1912, 1 v.

This contains the court's order or finding at length.

Naturalization Record, Declaration of Intention, 1872–1901, 1 v.; Final Papers, adult, 1904, 1 v., 1 entry; Minors, 1904, 1 v.

General Docket, 1897–1898, 1 v.; 1884–1901, 1 v.

Judges' Docket, 1872–date, 2 v.

Judges' Docket, Criminal, 1883–date, 3 v.

Bar Docket, 1872–1874, 1 v.

Court Docket, Jury Term, 1872–1873, 1 v.

Clerks' Docket, 1872, 1 v.; 1874, 1 v.

Judgment Docket, 1873–1888, 1 v.

Execution Docket, 1872–1889, 1 v.

Judgment and Execution Docket, 1891–date, 1 v.

Insanity Docket, 1893–date, 1 v.

The contents include: name of insane; date; number of case; petitioner and witnesses; jury or commission's order.

Naturalization Docket, 1880–1904, 1 v.

Fee Books: Common Law, 1872–1885, 1 v.; 1895–date, 3 v.; Criminal, 1872–1885, 1 v.; 1899–date, 5 v.; Common Law and Criminal, 1885–1895, 1 v.

RECORDS OF VITAL STATISTICS

Record of Marriage Licenses, 1859–1874, 3 v.; 1886–date, 6 v.

Marriage Register, 1874–1886, 1 v.

The register contains names, date, and by whom certified.

Register of Marriages, 1878–1901, 1 v.

Record of Applications for Marriage License, 1892–date, 8 v.
Rough Register of Marriage Licenses, 1894–1911, 1 v.
Index to Marriage Register (male and female), 2 v.
Marriage Licenses, 1909–date, 1 f.b.
Register of Births, 1878–date, 6 v.
Register of Still Births, 1877–1899, 1 v.
Register of Births and Deaths: Births, 1902–1903; Deaths, 1902–1906, 1 v.
Register of Deaths, 1877–1899, 1 v.; 1902–1903, 1 v.; 1906–1912, 1 v.; 1910–date, 1 v.
Index to volume 1 of Birth and Death Register, 2 v.
Record of Physicians' Certificates, 1877–date, 1 v.
Record of Physicians' and Midwives' Certificates, 1878–1911, 1 v.
Record of Nurses' Certificates, 1910–date, 1 v.
There is only one entry.
Record of Dental Certificates, 1892–date, 1 v.
Register of Physicians and Accoucheurs, 1877–1895, 1 v.
Record of Architects' Licenses, 1898–date, 1 v.

TAXATION RECORDS

Abstracts of Assessment, 1871–1875, 1 v.; 1893–1899, 1 v.; 1900–1911, 1 v.
Report to Auditor of Assessment and Statement of Taxes, 1892–1897, 1912, 1 v.
Docket of Tax Levies [Docket of Rates and Amounts Wanted], 1876, 1 v.; 1887–date, 1 v.
Transfer Books, 1871–1874, 7 v., in basement.
Plats of School Districts, 1872–1885, 1 v.; 1 v., current.
Plat Book of Road Districts, 1 v.
Assessors' Books, 1859, 1860, 1863, 1 v. each, in basement; 1861, 1865, 1867, 1870, 1 v. each.
Collectors' Books, 1861, 1862, 1864, 1865, 1866, 1867, 1 v. each.
Assessors' Books and Collectors' Books, 1870–1899, in basement; 1900–date, 318 v.
Railroad Abstracts, 1873–date, 5 v.
Telephone and Telegraph Tax Book, 1884–date, 2 v.
Board of Review Record, 1899–date, 1 v.
Board of Review Complaint Docket, 1899–date, 1 v.

Town Collectors' Returns of Unpaid Taxes, 1882–1883, 1 v.
Personal Property Abatement Lists, 1887–1897, 1 v., in basement.
Collectors' Returns of Delinquent Tax Lists, 1870–1873, 1 v.; 1874–1890, 10 v. (2–11)

There is also one box of these returns in basement.

Assessment Rolls of Special Assessments, Delinquent Tax Lists, etc., 1890–1900.

These are in a box in the basement.

Objections to Judgment, 1904–1905, 1 f.b.
Tax Judgment Record, 1860, 1 v.; 1860–1866, 1 v.; 1866–1873, 1 v.; 1874, 1875, 1876, 1 v.; 1877–1879, 1 v.; 1880, 2 v.; Petitions, 1867–1873, 1 v.
Tax Sale and Redemption Record, 1877–1879, 1 v.
Forfeiture Record, 1871–1878, 1 v.
Tax Judgment, Sale, Redemption, and Forfeiture Record, 1881–date, 24 v.
Index to Tax Judgment and Sale Records, 1860–1884, 2 v.
Statement of Forfeited Lands [Forfeiture Record], 1907–1912, 1 v.
Accounts of County Collectors for Amounts Received by Sales and Redemption of Forfeited Property, 1873–1903, 1 v.
Record of Affidavits for Tax Deeds, 1876–date, 2 v.
Affidavits for Tax Deeds, 1893–1909, 1 f.b.
Payments for Refunding Fund, 1875–1886, 2 v., in basement.

This contains the record of the refunding of illegally assessed state tax of 1873.

Journal of Collection of Taxes, 1887–1892, 1 v.
County Treasurers' Settlement with Towns, 1869–1872, 1 v.
Collectors' Settlements with Town Officers, 1883–1906, 4 v.
Collectors in Account with Town Collectors, 1864–1881, 3 v.
Collectors' Accounts, County Funds, 1872, 1873, 1874, 1895–1903, 4 v.
County Treasurers' Accounts, 1895–1901, 1 v.
County Treasurers' and Collectors' Accounts of Fees, 1895–1901, 1 v.
Deposits with County Treasurer, 1895–1902, 1 v.
County Collectors' Accounts for Registered Bond Fund Tax, 1891–1897, 1 v.
County Treasurers in Account with County, 1860–1862, 1 v.

Treasurers' Accounts, County Funds, 1874–1875, 2 v.; 1883–date, 4 v.

Treasurers' Cash Books, 1862–1870, 1 v.; 1874–1875, 1 v.

Treasurers' and Collectors' Ledger, 1866–1872, 1 v.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Patent Record, 1867–1869, 1 v.

Register of Officers, 1859–1881, 1 v.; 1887–date, 1 v.

Record of County Collectors' Satisfactions and Release of Bond, 1869–1871, 1 v.

Assessors' Bond Record, 1898–1912, 1 v.

County Officers' Bond Record, 1876–1912, 1 v.

Record of Justice of the Peace and Constable Bonds, 1868–date, 1 v.

Register of Commissions of Justices of the Peace and Constables, 1881–date, 1 v.

Estray Record, 1859–1871, 1 v.; 1871–date, 1 v.

Justices' of the Peace Report of Fines to County Court, 1893–1912, 1 v.

County Officers' Semiannual Reports of Fees, 1893 *et seq.*, 1 v.; 1911–1912, 1 f.b.

Record of Applications for Blind Pensions, 1903–1911, 1 v.

Account Book, Births and Deaths, 1902–date, 2 v.

Register of County Clerks' Fees, 1874–1893, 1 v.; 1894–1910, 1 v.

County Clerks' Journal of Receipts, 1893–1901, 1 v.; 1901–1910, 1 v.

Register of Jurors' Certificates, 1910.

Only one page of the volume has been used.

County Treasurers' Cash Book, 1871–1886, 2 v.

County Treasurers' Record of Costs and Fees, 1899–1901, 1 v.

Miscellaneous Record, 1883–date, 3 v.

County court records, special assessment petitions showing ordinance, etc., adoption records, delinquent and dependent children's records, etc. are recorded together with some probate business.

School Commissioners' Office Book, 1860–1885, 1 v.

The book contains an account of school funds.

Quarterly Bills of County Superintendents, 1893–1903; also contains reports of states attorney, 1892–1907, 1 v.

Sheriffs' Process Docket, 1867–1906, 8 v.

Sheriffs' Docket, 1872–1874, 1 v.
Sheriffs' Execution Docket, 1866–1894, 4 v.
Register of Sheriffs' Fees, 1872–1890, 1 v.

County Clerk—Probate

PROBATE COURT RECORDS

Probate Record, 1859–date, 22 v. (1–22)
Probate Files (nos. 1–3950), 1861–date, 134 f.b.
Probate Judgment Record, 1866–date, 5 v.

DOCKETS AND FEE BOOKS

Probate Court Docket, 1869–date, 12 v.
Estate, applicant, what for, and order of court are listed.

Probate Docket, 1859–1862, 1 v.
This is an estate docket.

Probate Estate Docket, 1869–1880, 1 v.; Probate Estate Ledger, 1880–1882, 2 v.; 1883–1891, 1 v.
Probate Estate Ledger, 1860–1880, 2 v.
Guardians' Docket, 1869–1872, 1 v.
Probate Judgment Docket, 1866–1884, 2 v. (A–B); 1884–date, 12 v. (1–12)
Probate Judgment Docket, 1859–1870, 1 v.
Estate, claimant, nature and amount of claim, memorandum of summons and notice, and judgment are recorded.

Probate Fee Book, 1860–1867, 1 v.; 1865–1882, 2 v. (B–C); 1869–1883, 1 v.; 1886–1888, 1 v.; 1883–date, 4 v. (D–G)
Guardians' Fee Book, 1870–1872, 1 v.; 1892–1911, 1 v. (A); Guardians and Conservators, 1911–date, 1 v. (C)
Insanity Fee Book, 1892–1912, *et seq.*, 3 v.

RECORDS OF WILLS, BONDS, AND LETTERS

Record of Wills, 1865–1882, 1 v.; 1894–date, 1 v.
Record of Administrators' Bonds and Letters, 1859–1866, 1 v.
The volume also contains executors' and guardians' bonds and letters.

Administrators' Record, 1867–date, 6 v. (A–F)
The contents include petition, bond, letters, and oath. Volume B also contains executors' records, 1879–1884.

Record of Executors' Bonds and Letters, 1865–1866, 1 v.; 1867–1877, 1 v. (A); 1895–1900, 1 v. (C); 1903–date, 1 v. (D)
Petition, bond, letters, and appointment of appraisers are recorded.

Conservators' Record, 1894–1903, 1 v.

Conservators' Record, 1899–date, 1 v.

The volume contains the record of trial and of the appointment of conservator.

Record of Guardians' Bonds and Letters, 1859–1872, 1 v.; 1867–1873, 1 v.; 1872–date, 5 v.

Volume 4, 1879–1890, contains petition, appointment, bond and letters; also, a conservators' two-page form, including appearance, petition, affidavit, order, oath, and letters.

Record of Administrators de bonis non, and will annexed, 1882–date, 1 v.

Record of Miscellaneous Probate Bonds, 1882–1893, 1 v.

Record of Affidavits of Notice for Creditors to Appear, 1866–date, 1 v.

INVENTORIES, APPRAISEMENTS, AND SALE BILLS

Record of Sale Bills and Inventories, 1859–1868, 1 v.

Inventory Record, 1866–date, 8 v.

Guardians' Inventory Record, 1872–1905, 1 v.

Appraisement Record, 1866–date, 6 v.

Warrant and oath of appraisers, appraisement and oath to it are recorded.

Sale Record, Personal Property, Private Sale, 1866–1885, 2 v.; 1897–date, 1 v.

The volumes contain petition, decree, oath and return on one page and on the other oath and report specifying articles, number, and price.

Sale Record, Personal Property, Public Sale, 1885–date, 4 v.

The contents are the same as above except that oath of clerk and crier of sale are added.

Accounts Current Record, Administrators and Guardians, 1883–1890, 1 v.

Administrators' and Guardians' Report Record, 1870–1883, 2 v.

Administrators' Report Record, 1885–date, 7 v.

Guardians' Report Record, 1883–date, 7 v.

Executors' Report Record, 1894–date, 1 v.

Insolvent Estate Record, 1879–1913, 1 v.

Report, petition, and order of court are included.

Widows' Relinquishment and Selection Record, 1867–date, 3 v.

Record of Petitions for Sale of Real Estate by Administrators, 1870–1871, 1 v.

Petition, decree, bond, report of sale, etc. are recorded. There are but two or three entries in the volume.

Record of Reports of Sale of Real Estate, 1884–date, 4 v.

Clerk of the Circuit Court

CIRCUIT COURT RECORDS

Circuit Court Record (common law, chancery, and criminal), 1859–1869, 3 v. (1–3)

Common Law Record, 1869–date, 5 v. (4–8)

Record of Judgment by Default and Confession, 1860–1866, 1 v.

Default Record, 1878–1908, 1 v. (10)

Chancery Record, 1869–date, 15 v. (5–25)

Volumes 9, 10 and 23 are confession of judgment in vacation, 1877–date. Numbers 19, and 20 are omitted. Volume 7 is a default record, 1870–1877.

Criminal Record, 1870–date, 4 v. (1–4)

Recognizance Record, 1876–1899, 1 v.; 1877–1883, 1 v.

Record of Forfeiture of Recognizance, 1877, 1 v.

There is but one entry.

Record of Rules of Practice, 1 v.

Index to Court Records, 1860–date, 3 v. each for plaintiff and defendant.

Chancery Files (nos. 1–2665), 1859–date, 87 f.b.

These contain bill or petition, report of commissioners and master, subpœnas, certified advertisements, cost bills, and decrees.

Criminal Files (nos. 1–2337), 1860–date, 23 f.b.

The contents include subpœnas, indictments, instructions given and refused, verdicts and appeals.

Common Law Files (nos. 1000–3557), 1869–date, 70 f.b.

Earlier papers are stored in the basement in two dry-goods boxes. The contents are appeals, subpœnas, jurors' certificates, verdicts, etc.

Naturalization Record: Declaration of Intention, 1860–1906, 1 v.; Minors and Discharged Soldiers, 1865, 1 v.

DOCKETS, FEE BOOKS, ETC.

General Docket, 1874–date, 3 v.

The headings are as follows: number of case; when commenced; attorneys; parties; action.

Bar Docket, 1871-1874, 1 v., in basement; 1880–1882, 1 v.

Judges' Docket, 1859–1862, 1 v., in basement.
Judges' Docket, 1911–date.
The volume is loose leaf.

Chancery Docket, 1875–1897, 2 v., in basement.
These volumes are a rough docket, including fees, etc.

Minute Docket, 1864–1868, 1 v.; Common Law, 1873–1907, 3 v.; Chancery, 1870–1907, 6 v.; Criminal, 1870–1907, 3 v.
Common Law, Chancery, and Criminal Docket, 1869–1872, 1 v.; 1908–1910, 2 v.
The headings are as follows: number of case; attorneys; parties; action; last term order; order of court.

Judgment Docket, 1860–1861, 1 v.; 1869–1876, 1 v.
Execution Docket, 1859–1860, 1 v.
Judgment and Execution Docket, 1862–date, 9 v. (A–I)
Executions, 1865–date, 10 f.b.
Lien and Satisfaction Docket, 1875–date, 1 v.
Docket of Mechanics' Liens, 1888–date, 2 f.b.
Fee Book, 1866–date, 25 v. (4–28); 1859–1879, 3 v., in basement.
There are two volumes number "16."

Fee Bills, 1900–1908, 1 f.b.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Register of Jurors, 1890–date, 2 v.
Witness Affidavits, 1907–date, 1 v.
Register of Jurors' Certificates, 1862–1873, 1 v., in basement.
Venire and Certificates of Juries, 1903–date, 1 f.b.
Jury Reports, 1911–date, 1 f.b.
Justice of the Peace Transcript Record, 1859–date, 4 v.
Transcripts, 1860–1898, 5 f.b.
Transcripts of the Judgment from Justice of the Peace and other Courts, 1878–1898, 1 f.b.; 1896–1912, 2 f.b.
Confessions, 1876–1906, 1 f.b.; 1908–date, 1 f.b.
Executions on Confession, 1878–date, 5 f.b.
States Attorneys' Reports, etc., 1874–1910, 1 v.; 1872–1910, 1 f.b.
Special Assessment List of Drainage Districts Numbers 1 and 2, 1899, 1 v. each.
Stallion Register, 1910–date, 2 v.
Indictment Record, 1876–1897, 1 v.

Rough Book of Testimony before the Grand Jury, 1892–1897, 1 v., in basement.

Coroners' Record, 1870–1873, 1 v.

Contents: name of deceased, names of jury, names, residence and occupation of witnesses, record of case, verdict of jury, description of deceased, inventory, how body was disposed of, and remarks.

Coroners' Inquests, 1907–1908, 1 f.b.

Sheriffs' Certificates of Levy, 1897–1913, 1 f.b.

Circuit Clerks' Register of Fees, 1872–1891, 2 v., in basement; 1888–date, 3 v.

Circuit Clerk—Recorder

DEED AND MORTGAGE RECORDS

Entry Book, 1874–1912, 9 v. (A–I)

Deed Record, 82 v.

Transcript Record of Instruments relating to Douglas County from Coles, 5 v.

Mortgage Record, 74 v.

Release Record, 1870–date, 27 v.

Oil and Gas Lease Record, 1905–1907, 1 v.

Record of Town Plats, 3 v.

Deed Index, 1850–1911, 7 v. each for grantor and grantee.

Index to Mortgages, 1871–1911, 3 v. each for mortgagor and mortgagee.

Current Indexes, Mortgages and Deeds, 4 v.

The volumes are loose leaf.

Index to Marginal Releases, 2 v.

Tract Indexes, 4 v.

There is also a tract index, 8 v. for lands, 5 v. for town lots, as well as 2 other volumes in the basement.

Chattel Mortgage Record, 1861–1902, 26 v. (A–Z), in basement; 1902–date, 14 v. (A–N)

Index to Chattel Mortgages, 3 v.

Record of Masters' Certificates of Sale and Redemption, 1868–1899, 1 v.

Record of Sheriffs' Certificates, 1859–date, 3 v.

Record of Masters' Certificates of Purchase, 1900–1903, 1 v.

Masters' Certificates and Reports of Sale, 1867–1906, 1 f.b.

Sheriffs' Sales, Redemption Certificates, 1881–1913, 1 f.b.
Surveyors' Record, 1865–1870, 1 v., in basement.
Plat Book of County, 1 v.
Plat Book and Record of Subdivisions, 1 v.
Register of Original Patentees, 1831–1872, 1 v.
Miscellaneous Record, 1870–date, 6 v.
Record of Certificates of Election of Trustees, 1872–date, 3 v.
Record of Collectors' Bonds, 1868–1878, 1 v., in basement.
Record of Township Treasurers' Bonds, 1890–1913, 1 v.
Record of Town Collectors' Bonds, 1872–date, 1 v.
Record of Soldiers' Discharges, 1865–1894, 1 v.

DU PAGE COUNTY[1]

Du Page county was set off from Cook in 1839; the county seat is Wheaton. The vaults and courthouse are fireproof. The courthouse, moreover, is located in a public square. The condition of the files and records is good. A card index to the files has been installed.

County Clerk

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' AND SUPERVISORS' RECORDS

County Commissioners' Court Record, 1839–1849, 2 v. (1–2), labeled "Records."

Supervisors' Record, 1850–date, 5 v. (A–E)

COUNTY COURT RECORDS

County Court Record, 1872–date, 3 v. (1–3)

Record of Judgment by Confession, 1907–date, 1 v. (1)

County Court Files, 1878–date, 56 f.b.

The contents include common law, criminal, adoption, and insanity files.

Insanity Record, 1871-date, 2 v. (A–B)

Petition for trial, findings and verdict of court are recorded.

Naturalization Record, 1880–1906, 4 v. (A–D)

Insanity Docket, 1893–date, 1 v. (1)

County Court Fee Book, 1872–date, 2 v.

TAXATION RECORDS

Abstracts of Assessment and Taxes, 1876–date, 7 v.

Abstracts of Footings of Collectors' Books, 1907–date, 1 v.

These are statements of assessment and taxes.

School District Plat Book, 1878–date, 2 v. (1–2)

Collectors' Books, 1855–date.

Assessors' Books, 1847–date.

Railroad Tax Book, 1863–date, 16 v.

[1] Examined August, 1912.

Telephone and Telegraph Tax Book, 1887–date, 3 v.
Record of Proceedings of Board of Review, 1899–date, 3 v. (1–3)
Tax Judgment Record, 1839–1879, 4 v.
Tax Sale Record, 1843–1879, 4 v.
Tax Judgment, Sale, Redemption, and Forfeiture Record, 1880–date, 21 v.
Record of Affidavits for Tax Deeds, 1880–date, 5 v. (A–C, 1–2)
Earlier affidavits are in tax sale record.

RECORDS OF VITAL STATISTICS

Marriage Record, 1839–1877, 2 v. (1–2)
The record contains names of parties, when and by whom married.
Register of Marriages, 1877–date, 4 v. (1–4)
Board of health form.
Index to Marriages (male and female), 1877–date, 2 v. (A–B)
Marriage Licenses, 1839–date, 87 f.b.
Register of Births, January, 1878–date, 5 v. (1–5)
Register of Deaths, 1878–date, 2 v. (1–2)
Birth Reports, 1877–date, 33 f.b.
Death Reports, 1877–date, 18 f.b.
Record of Physicians' Certificates, 1877–date, 2 v. (1–2)
Register of Physicians and Accoucheurs, 1877–date, 1 v. (1)

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Register of Officers Elected, 1868–date, 1 v.
Register of Justices and Constables Elected, 1839–1849, 1 v.
Militia Roll Record, 1861–1862, 1 v. (A)
Record of Sale of School Lands, 1842–1859, 1 v.
The record contains name of purchaser, price, amount and description of land and date of sale.

County Clerk—Probate

PROBATE COURT RECORDS

Probate Court Record, 1839–date, 41 v. (1–41)
The early volumes of this series contain all the probate records of their date—wills, letters, bonds, inventories, etc.
Probate Judgment Record, 1869–1873, 1 v. (A)
Later volumes of this record are kept in the same series with the "Probate Record" and numbered accordingly.

Probate Files, 1839–date: Estates, 370 f.b.; Guardians and Conservators 25 f.b.

DOCKETS AND FEE BOOKS

Probate Judges' Docket, 1850–1884, 5 v. (1–5), basement vault; 1884–date, 4 v. (A–D)

Estate Docket, 1857–date, 4 v. (A–D)

Guardians' Docket, 1859–date, 1 v. (A)

The contents are the same as those of estate docket.

Probate Judgment Docket, 1859–1868, 1 v. (A)

Probate Fee Book, 1844–date, 12 v. (A–E, A–G)

RECORDS OF WILLS, BONDS, AND LETTERS

Record of Wills, 1868–date, 7 v. (A–G)

Administrators' Record, 1859–date, 7 v. (A–G)

Executors' Record, 1861–date, 7 v. (A–G)

Conservators' Record, 1869–date, 2 v. (A–B)

Guardians' Record, 1861–date, 3 v. (A–C)

INVENTORIES, APPRAISEMENTS, SALE BILLS, ETC.

Inventory, Appraisement, and Sale Record, 1867–1873, 1 v. (B)

Inventory Record, 1869–date, 11 v. (B–L)

Guardians' Inventory Record, 1899–date, 2 v.

Appraisement Record, 1865–date, 7 v. (A–G)

Sale Record, 1869–date, 3 v. (B–D)

Estate Ledger, 1869–date, 9 v. (A–I)

The form includes name of estate, amount of appraisement and sale bill, record of money received and paid out.

Administrators' and Executors' Account Record, 1850–1854, 1 v.

The volume contains items of receipts and expenditures.

Report Record, 1876–date, 11 v. (A–K)

Widows' Relinquishment and Selection Record, 1870–1904, 2 v. (A–B)

Record of Proceedings on Petitions to Sell Real Estate to Pay Debts, 1870–1873, 1 v. (A)

The volume is blank after p. 23.

Clerk of the Circuit Court

CIRCUIT COURT RECORDS

Circuit Court Record: Chancery, Common Law, and Criminal, 1839–1868, 5 v. (1–5); Common Law and Criminal, 1868–date, 11 v. (6–16); Chancery, 1868–date, 17 v. (1–17)
Index to Circuit Court Record, 1858–date, 4 v. each for plaintiff and defendant.
Circuit Court Files, 1839–date: Common Law, 64 f.b.; Chancery, 113 f.b.; Criminal, 23 f.b.
Naturalization Record, 1861–1906, 2 v. (A–B)

DOCKETS, FEE BOOKS, ETC.

General Docket, 1861–date, 5 v. (A–E)
Judgment Docket, 1839–1904, 2 v. (1–2)
Execution Docket, 1839–1904, 1 v. (1)
Judgment and Execution Docket, 1894–date, 3 v. (3–5)
Docket of Mechanics' Liens, 1887–date, 2 v. (1–2)
Fee Book, 1839–date, 16 v. (A–P)
Justice of the Peace Transcript Record, 1848–date, 3 v. (1–3)

Circuit Court—Recorder

DEED AND MORTGAGE RECORDS

Entry Book, 1839–date, 11 v. (1–11)
Deed Record, 1839–date, 111 v. (1–111)
Mortgage Record, 1848–date, 71 v. (1–71)
Release Record, 1866–date, 17 v. (1–17)
Plat Book, 1848–date, 7 v.
General Index, 16 v. (A–P) each for grantor and grantee.
Chattel Mortgage Record, 1859–date, 18 v. (1–18)

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Record of Sheriffs' Certificates of Levy, Sale, and Redemption, 1842–date, 4 v. (A–D)
Record of Masters' Certificates of Sale, 1886–date, 2 v. (1–2)
Original Land Entry Book, c. 1835–1858, 1 v.

Field Notes, Du Page County [Record of United States Surveys], 1875, 1 v.

The notes contain plats and description of corners of sections and quarter sections.

Collectors' Bond Record, 1872–date, 2 v. (B–C)

Register of Stallion Licenses, 1910–date, 2 v. (1–2)

Miscellaneous Record, 1861–date, 7 v. (1–7)

EDGAR COUNTY[1]

Edgar county was set off from Clark in 1823; the county seat is Paris. The courthouse is not fireproof and there are no vaults. The older tax records, supervisors' papers, and county court files are stored in the attic.

County Clerk

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' AND SUPERVISORS' RECORDS

County Commissioners' Court Record,[2] April, 1823–June, 1836, 1 v. (1), indexed; September, 1836–September, 1849, 1 v. (2), not indexed.

The record contains: petitions for roads, with surveys, etc.; licenses granted; specifications for jail and courthouse; recommendations of men for justices and constables; lists of grand and petit jurors; certificates of free Negroes; record of children "bound out"; list of tax rates on property; orders on treasurer, etc. The volumes are 10 x 15 inches; the first contains 425 p., the second, 615 p.

County Court Record, December, 1849–March, 1857, 1 v. (3)

Supervisors' Record, 1857–date, 8 v. (4–11)

Supervisors' Papers, 1858–1897, 80 f.b., in attic; 1898–date, 60 f.b., in office.

Jury List, 1872–date, 2 v.

COUNTY COURT RECORDS

County Court Record, 1872–date, 4 v. (1–4)

Confession of Judgment Record, 1895–date, 1 v. (1)

[1] Examined March, 1912.

[2] The record contains the following entry for October 29, 1823. "Ordered that John Stratton be allowed the sum of three Dollars, Specie, and Six Dollars, State paper, for Six gallons liquor furnished at the Sale of lots in the town of Paris, E. C. Ills. on the 16th June, 1823." County commissioners' court record, 1:26.

On June 4, 1827, it is "Ordered that the sabbath school be allowed to occupy the court house until ten o'clock when there are two appointments for preaching and until twelve o'clock when but one (and as long as they please when there is no preaching) except on sacramental occasions when the school has no privelege." *Ibid.*, 123.

Recognizance Record, 1872–date, 1 v.

County Court Files: Common Law and Criminal, 1872–1890, in pigeonholes in attic; 1890–date, 60 f.b., in office.

Drainage Record, 1883–date, 1 v.

Voluntary Assignment Record, 1878–1906, 2 v. (1–2)

Inventory of goods, etc., of insolvent and schedule of debts are recorded.

Adoption Record, 1906–date, 2 v. (1–2)

Insanity Record, 1886–date, 3 v. (A, 1–2)

The volumes record orders of court appointing a jury or commission to determine insanity, the report of the jury, and final order of court as to disposition of insane person.

Naturalization Record: Intentions, 1872–1901, 1 v. (1); Final Papers, 1873–1902, 1 v. (1); Minors, 1874–1891, 1 v.; Declaration of Final Intention, 1906, 1 v.

Judges' Docket: Common Law, 1878–date, 1 v. (3); Criminal, 1891–date, 1 v. (1)

Execution Docket, 1872–date, 1 v. (1)

Fee Book: Criminal, 1872–date, 5 v.; Common Law, 1872–date, 5 v.; Common Law and Criminal, 1911–date, 1 v. (6)

Miscellaneous Fee Book, 1890–date, 2 v.

Records of fees in insanity, adoption, and other miscellaneous cases are included.

TAXATION RECORDS

Record of Abstracts of Assessment and Taxes, 1875–date, 3 v. (A–C)

The volumes contain first, a tabular statement, showing the totals of the footings of the columns of each assessment book of personal property and the grand totals of the books; second, a statement of the assessment of property, and taxes levied thereon, showing total value of all lands, lots, and personal property and the various taxes imposed.

Land [Entry] Book, 1816–1855, 1 v.

The volume lists date of entry, patentee, present owner, description, and number of acres.

Tax List (real and personal property), 1831, 1 v.

This is a cardboard covered volume, 4 x 8 inches, containing 96 pages.

Assessors' Books, 1840–date.

Collectors' Books, 1854–date.

Board of Review [Complaint Docket], 1899–1906, 1 v.

Tax Judgment Record, 1859–1879, 4 v. (A–D)
Tax Sale and Redemption Record, 1837–1879, 4 v. (1, A–C)
Tax Judgment, Sale, Redemption, and Forfeiture Record, 1880–date, 29 v.
Record of Affidavits for Tax Deeds, 1883–date, 2 v. (1–2)

RECORDS OF VITAL STATISTICS

Marriage Register, 1823–1853, 1 v. (A, c. 200 p., 8 x 14 in.); 1853–1874, 1 v. (B, c. 130 p., 10 x 15 in.); 1874–1886, 1 v. (1)
The first two volumes of the register give names of parties, date of marriage, and name of officer; the last volume also gives ages of parties, and date and number of license.

Register of Marriages, December, 1877–date, 3 v. (1–3); Index, 2 v. (A–B)
Board of health form.

Register of Marriage Licenses, 1823–1859, 1 v.; 1859–1904, 1 v.
The register gives date of license, and name of man and woman.

Record of Applications for Marriage License, 1902–date, 9 v. (3–11)
Marriage Licenses, 1823–1907, 49 f.b., in attic; 1908–date, 4 f.b., in office.
Register of Births, 1877–date, 4 v. (1–4); Index, 1 v.
Register of Deaths, 1877–date, 3 v. (1–3); Index, 1 v.
Record of Dentists, 1884–date, 1 v.
Architects' License Record, 1898–1908, 1 v. (1)
Record of Physicians' Certificates, 1879–1908, 2 v.
Record of Physicians' and Dentists' Certificates, 1908–date, 1 v.
Register of Physicians and Accoucheurs, 1877–1897, 1 v. (1)
The register gives date of registration, name, kind of practice, and certificate of board of health authorizing practice.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Abstracts of Elections, 1868–1890, 1 f.b., in attic.
Assessors' Bond Record, 1899–date, 1 v. (1)
Official Oath and Bond Record, 1866–1874, 1 v. (B)
Justices' and constables' oaths and bonds are recorded.

Justices' and Constables' Bond Record, 1875–date, 2 v. (2–3)
Register of Township Officers, 1865–date, v. D–date.

The register gives name of officer, residence, office, date of election, date of bond and name of bondsmen, date of commission and of its expiration.

Record of Justices and Constables, 1827–1861, 1 v.

The record contains name, date of commission, date of qualification and remarks. The volume is 6 x 8 inches in size.

Record of Ear Marks, 1823–1886, 1 v. (A), in attic.

Certificate Record (thoroughbred stock), 1888–1908, 1 v.

County Clerk—Probate

PROBATE COURT RECORDS

Probate Record, 1823–1834, 2 v., one a paper folio laid inside the other.

The record contains miscellaneous court orders granting letters of administration, allowing claims, etc.

Probate Record, 1834–date, 30 v. (3–32)

Record of Claims Allowed against Estates, 1850–1853, 1 v., unlabeled.

Probate Files, c. 1830–date, 270 f.b.

DOCKETS AND FEE BOOKS

Claim Record, 1899–date, 1 v. (1)

The volume records claims filed against estates; one-half page is given to each estate, and all claims against the estate are entered on it, with name of claimant, date, amount, and nature of claim.

Judges' Claim Docket, 1878–date, 3 v. (1–3)

Headings are: number of claim; date filed; names of claimant, and estate; nature of claim; amount of claim; and judgment of court.

Probate Judges' Docket, 1869–date, 10 v. (1–10)

Headings are name of estate, orders of court, or remarks as to action ordered.

Probate Estate Docket and Ledger, 1873–date, 6 v. (1–6)

The contents include: name of estate, of administrator; date of letters, amount of bond, names of sureties; names of widow and heirs; date, amount, and place in record of inventory, appraisement, sale bills, etc., and lastly, a list of claims allowed against estate.

Judgment Docket, October, 1827–April, 1835, 1 v.

Probate Fee Book, 1862–1876, 4 v. (A–D); 1881–date, 6 v. (F–K)

Probate Fee Book (claims), 1869–1887, 2 v. (A–B)

RECORDS OF WILLS, BONDS, AND LETTERS

Record of Wills, 1829–date, 9 v. (1–9)

Bond Record, January, 1850–March, 1858, 1 v.

Administrators', executors', and guardians' bonds are recorded.

Record of Administrators', Executors', and Guardians' Letters, 1835–1861, 3 v.

Record of Administrators' and Executors' Bonds, 1834–1849, 1 v.

Administrators' Bond Record, 1858–date, 6 v. (A–F)

Guardians' Bond Record, 1858–date, 4 v. (1–4)

Record of Miscellaneous Probate Bonds and Letters, 1881–date, 1 v. (A)

The volume contains bonds, oaths, and letters of administration, de bonis non, and with will annexed.

INVENTORIES, APPRAISEMENTS, AND SALE BILLS

"Inventory Book," May, 1838–May, 1849, 1 v.

This is a cardboard-back daybook.

Inventory, Appraisement, and Sale Bill Record, June, 1850–February, 1856, 1 v., labeled "Ledger A."

Appraisement and Sale Bill Record, 1856–1869, 2 v. (B–C)

The volumes also contain inventories.

Appraisement Bill Record, 1870–date, 6 v. (D–I)

Sale Bill Record, 1870–date, 3 v. (D–F)

Inventory Record, 1870–date, 6 v. (D–I)

Guardians' Inventory Record, 1874–1895, 1 v.

REPORTS, ETC.

"Settlements with Administrators and Guardians," April, 1829–December, 1833, 1 v.

This volume is a blue-back daybook (18 p. used), and shows amount of all receipts and expenditures of administrator or guardian.

Administrators' and Guardians' Account Record, 1847–1858, 1 v.

The volume contains current accounts and final report, showing receipts and disbursements.

Administrators' and Executors' Report Record, 1858–date, 10 v. (A–J)

Current accounts and final reports are recorded.

Guardians' Report Record, 1862–date, 8 v. (A–H)

Widows' Selection Record, 1910–date, 1 v.

Clerk of the Circuit Court

CIRCUIT COURT RECORDS

Circuit Court Record, 1823–date, 49 v. (1–49)
Confession Record, 1894–date, 3 v. (1–3)
Recognizance Record, 1877–date, 2 v. (1–2)
Complete Record, 1828–1848, 3 v. (1–3)
This is a complete record of all files in chancery cases affecting titles.

Circuit Court Files, c. 1829–date, 324 f.b.
Common law, chancery, and criminal files are kept together.

Index to Files, c. 1830–date, 2 v. each for plaintiff and defendant.
The index lists number of case, parties, date of trial, and number of filingbox.

Index to Criminal Files, 1882–date, 1 v.
The index gives number of case, defendant, plaintiff, date, and number of filingbox.

Naturalization Record, Final Certificate, 1859–1880, 1 v.

DOCKETS, FEE BOOKS, ETC.

Court Docket, 1849–1862, 4 v.
The volumes give number of case, names of parties and of attorneys, action, and remarks.

Judges' Docket, 1877–date: Common Law, 19 v.; Chancery, 9 v.; Criminal, 4 v.

Execution Docket, 1826–1885, 9 v. (1–9)
Volumes 1 and 2 are labeled "Ledger," bound in boards 8 x 14 inches.

Judgment and Execution Docket, 1885–date, 3 v. (9–11)
Docket of Mechanics' Liens, 1888–date, 1 v. (1)
Fee Book, 1832-date, 38 v. (2–39)
Fee Book (criminal), 1882–date, 5 v. (1–5)
Justice of the Peace Transcript Record, 1847–date, 9 v. (1–9)
States Attorneys' Report Record, 1891–date, 1 v. (A)

Circuit Clerk—Recorder

DEED AND MORTGAGE RECORDS

Entry Book, 1875–date, 10 v. (A–J)
Deed Record, 1823–date, 126 v. (1–126)
Till 1854 the deed records contained mortgages also.

Trust Deed Record, 1875–date, 20 v. (1–20)
Mortgage Record, 1854–date, 55 v. (1–55)
Plat Record, 1880–date, 2 v. (1–2)
Release Record, 1885–date, 7 v. (1–7)
General Index, 1823–date, 14 v. each for grantor and grantee.
Chattel Mortgage Record, 1905–date 8 v. (27–34)

The earlier volumes have been destroyed.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Certificate Record, 1853–date, 8 v. (1–8)

Sheriffs' and masters' certificates of levy, sale, and redemption are recorded.

Land Book, c. 1818–1855, 1 v. (1)

This is the usual land entry book.

Certificate of Incorporation Record, 1873–date, 2 v. (A–B)
Record of Soldiers' Discharges, 1865–1884, 1 v. (A)
Township Treasurers' and Collectors' Bond Record, 1890–date, 2 v. (1–2)
Collectors' Bond Record, 1857–1890, 1 v.
Stallion Register, 1910–date, 1 v. (1); Renewals, 1911–date, 1 v. (2)
Miscellaneous Record, 1886–date, 4 v. (1–4)

EDWARDS COUNTY[1]

Edwards county was set off from Madison and Gallatin in 1814; the county seat is Albion. The courthouse is not fireproof. The vaults are safe against an external fire but hardly against one beginning inside.

County Clerk

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' AND SUPERVISORS' RECORDS

County Commissioners' Court Record, January, 1815–March, 1832, 1 v. (A)

The contents include: appointment of road viewers and supervisors; establishment of roads; issuance of licenses for taverns and ferries and statement of rates; writs ad quod damnum; appointment of inspectors of flour, pork, beef, etc., on Lamat creek (p. 45); tax levies; agreement and list of stockholders of "Albion Library Company",[2] lists of grand and petit jurors; lists of county orders; and records of trials for small debts.

County Commissioners' Court Record, May, 1832–September, 1841, 1 v.

Laid in front of the volume is an execution docket, 1814–March, 1823, unbound, unindexed, and unlabeled.

[1] Examined December, 1911.

[2] The following formed an association for the purpose of erecting a public library; providing for the issuing of 300 shares at $5 each:—

Richard Flower	10 shares.
James O. Wattles	10 "
Theodore C. Cane	10 "
James Olver	10 "
Wm. Pickering	10 "
Henry Birkett	10 "
Geo. Flower	10 "
Attorney for Saml Thompson	10 "
Archibald Spring	5 "
Hugh Ronalds	10 "
John Robinson	1 "
James Jackson	1 "

The following were chosen trustees: Richard Flower, James Olver, James O. Wattles, Theodore C. Cane, and John Robinson.

John Robinson and Wm. Wilkerson being lowest bidders obtained the contract to erect the library for the sum of $1,800. County commissioners' court record, A: 172.

County Commissioners' Court Record, December, 1841–date, 10 v. (C–L)

County Court Record, 1855–1874, 1 v.

This is labeled "Record," and contains ordinary county business and record of sales of swamp lands in county.

County Commissioners' Court Record, 1875–September, 1881, 1 v.

The volume is labeled "Road Record."

County Commissioners' Court Papers, 1814–date, 40 f.b.

The contents include: tax lists, 1815, 1819, 1825, 1827; road petitions and plats, 1814–date; lists of lands sold for taxes, 1819–1842; account of public lands sold, 1815–1816; various reports on roads and poor of county; petitions for roads, ferry and tavern licenses; bonds; plan of courthouse, 1821; prospectus of Smallsburgh; list of county orders, 1815–1840; papers relating to division of Edwards and Wabash counties; census of county, 1835; treasurers' reports; report of school teacher at Grayville, 1841, etc.

Indentures, 1831–1874, 1 f.b.

Road Plats, 1877–1887, 1 v. (A)

Quarterly Report of Superintendent of Poor Farm, 1904–date, 1 v. (1)

Road Supervisors' Account Book, 1877–1888, 1 v.

This is an account of tax money received and expended.

Register of County Orders, 1853–date, 5 v.

The volumes give date and amount of order, to whom issued, and for what purpose.

Jury List, 1872–date, 1 v.

COUNTY COURT RECORDS

County Court Record, 1872–date, 1 v. (1)

County Court Files (common law and criminal), 1872–date, 6 f.b.

Index to Court Record, 1872–date, 1 v. each for plaintiff and defendant.

Insanity Record, 1893–date, 1 v.

Naturalization Record (declaration of intention), 1880–1896, 1 v.

After p. 14 the volume is blank.

Naturalization Papers, 1868–1896, 1 f.b.

Judges' Docket, 1872–date, 1 v.

Judgment Docket, January, 1845–September, 1849, 1 v.; 1872–date, 2 v.

There is no label and no index to the volume of the first series.

Execution Docket, 1872–date, 1 v.
Judges' Insanity Docket, 1893–date, 1 v.
Fee Book, 1872–date, 1 v.

TAXATION RECORDS

Abstract of Assessments (showing footings, etc.), 1874–1890, 1 f.b.
Assessment and Statement of Taxes, 1869–date, 1 f.b.
Tax Footings (statement of assessment), 1901–1903, 1906, 1909, 5 v.
Township School Plats, 1856–1868, 1 v.; 1873–1886, 1 v.; 1887–1910, 1 v.
School Tax Levies, 1875–date, 3 f.b.
Assessors' Books, 1829–date.

Tax lists, 1815, 1819, and 1825 are among the county commissioners' papers. Up to about 1850, collectors and assessors seem to have used the same books. Before 1870, lands, lots, and personal property for the whole county were assessed in one volume.

Collectors' Books, 1853–date.

There is one volume for each township after 1872.

Railroad Tax Assessments, 1880–date, 3 f.b.
Railroad Tax Book, 1873–1889, 1 v.; 1885–1897, 1 v.
Telegraph Tax Book, 1884–1894, 1 v.
Abatement Tax Lists, 1874–date, 1 f.b.
Delinquent Tax Lists, 1833–date, 3 f.b.
Tax Judgment Record, 1840–1880, 4 v.
Tax Sale Record, 1842–1860, 1 v.
Tax Sale and Redemption Record, 1860–1880, 2 v.
Tax Judgment, Sale, Redemption and Forfeiture Record, 1880–date, 1 v.
Record of Affidavits for Tax Deeds, 1871–1897, 2 v.

The volume for 1880–1897 is labeled "Record."

Refunding Fund Record, 1873, 1 v.
Collectors' Accounts with County, 1872–1895, 1 v.
Treasurers' Accounts with County, 1872–date, 1 v.
Entries of Conveyance, see Circuit Clerk–Recorder, *post* 205.

RECORDS OF VITAL STATISTICS

Record of Certificates of Marriages, Book A, May, 1815–December, 1844, indexed by male; Book B, January, 1845–February,

1855, indexed; Book C, March, 1855–April, 1869, indexed by male; Book D, February, 1855–date, indexed.

Index to above, 1 v. each for male and female.

Register of Marriages, 1878–date, 2 v.; Index, 1 v.

Board of health form.

Applications for Marriage License, 1815–date, 5 f.b.

Record of Applications for Marriage License, 1894–date, 5 v. (1–5)

Marriage Licenses, 1815–date, 11 f.b.

Register of Births, 1877–date, 3 v.; Index, 1 v.

Register of Still Births, 1877–date, 1 v.

Register of Deaths, 1877–date, 2 v.; Index, 1 v.

Birth Reports, 1877–date, 5 f.b.

Death Reports, 1877–date, 2 f.b.

Census of Edwards County, 1835, f.b. 2 of commissioners' papers.

The headings are as follows: heads of families; number of children and females of various ages; number of free Negroes; number of mills and manufactures, etc. Total population recorded is 2006. Several grist mills and carding mills, a castor oil press, wine press, several horse and ox mills, and thirty-four free Negroes are listed.

Census of Edwards County, 1861, 1865.

The volume is on top of filingboxes in county clerk's office. Census returns for 1825 and 1835 are in county commissioners' files.

Register of Dentists, 1888–date, 1 v.

Record of Dentists' Certificates, 1888–date, 1 v.

Register of Physicians, 1878–date, 1 v. (1)

Agricultural Statistics, 1881, 1 v.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Election Papers, 1816–1848, 1856–date, 29 f.b.

The poll books show how each man voted from 1816–1838; after 1838 the poll books contain only lists of voters, but the tally sheets and abstracts are filed along with them. Beginning in 1876 affidavits of challenged voters, and election officers' certificates of service are also filed. No papers were found for 1849–1855.

Nomination Papers, 1897–date, 1 f.b.

Petitions and certificates of nomination are recorded.

Assessors' Bond Record, 1899–date, 1 v.

List of Justices of the Peace, 1831–1857, 1 v.

The volume is in the library near the court room.

Register of County Officers, 1831–date, 1 v.

The register includes name of officer, residence, office, when elected, names of securities, and expiration of commission.

Estray Book, 1841–1858, 1 v.

The book is in the county superintendent's office.

Estray Record, 1859–1886, 1 v.

The volume is not labeled.

Record of Marks and Brands, 1815–1852, 1 v., in library; 1853–1875, 1 v., in court room.

Register, Receipts and Expenditures, 1873–1885, 1 v.

Register of Receipts and Expenditures, 1889–date, 1 v.

School Commissioners' Account Book, 1842–1851, 1 v.

The contents include accounts of investment and expenditure of money and of sales of school land, 1850–1851. There is no label and no index.

"Teachers Examined," 1860–1889, 1 v.

The volume is in the county superintendent's office.

School Commissioners' Report Record, 1843–1857, 1 v.

This is on top of the files in the office.

School Commissioners' Record, 1838–1853, 2 v.

The volumes contain an account of school lands sold. They are in the county superintendent's office, unlabeled and unindexed.

Record (showing amount of funds received), 1838–1859, 2 v.

The volumes are in the county superintendent's office.

Map of Edwards County, c. 1831.

This map shows state and county roads. See county commissioners' papers, 1831.

Justice of the Peace Papers, 1839–1859.

The papers are in two bundles on top of files in county clerk's office. They include transcripts, etc.

Coroners' Inquests, 1884–date, 2 f.b.

See also contents of "Miscellaneous Old Papers," *post*, 203.

County Clerk—Probate

PROBATE COURT RECORDS

Probate Court Record, September, 1833–April, 1845, 1 v.

Probate of wills, appointment of executors and administrators, letters, bonds, and oaths, sale bills and reports are included. The volume is not labeled and has no index.

Probate Journal (or Record), 1841–1849, 1 v.; 1850–1859, 2 v.; 1860–date, 12 v. (C–N)

Probate Order Book, April, 1844–February, 1848, 1 v.

Inventories, appraisement bills, sale bills, and allowance of claims are recorded.

Probate Files, 1817–date, 87 f.b.

Even the earliest files are quite full, and contain the letters, bonds, etc. of administrator or executor, inventories, appraisement and sale bills, settlements, etc. The estates are filed chronologically but are not numbered.

Index to Probate Files, 1 v. (A)

Probate Court Docket, 1859–1897, 1 v. (A)

Probate Justices' Docket for Civil Actions, April, 1838–1845.

The contents include suits and claims for debt, etc.

Probate Judges' Docket, 1877–date, 11 v. (F–P)

Probate Judgment and Claim Docket, 1859–1879, 1 v. (A)

Probate Fee Book, 1870–1891, 3 v. (C–E)

Probate Fee Book, December, 1886–date, 2 v. (F–G)

Guardians' Fee Book, 1901–date, 1 v. (H)

RECORDS OF WILLS, BONDS, AND LETTERS

Record of Wills, 1 v. (A)

Pages 1–22 contain wills, 1815–1829 (including Morris Birkbeck's). The next 20 pages contain probate records, appointments of administrators, their bonds and oaths; sale bills, August, 1831–March, 1832; the next 30 pages contain probate records also, but mainly appointment of guardians and other guardianship business, November, 1832–November, 1841. The book is not labeled; the back is loose, and tied with string.

Record of Wills, 1871–date, 3 v. (A–C)

The headings are as follows: proof of death; probate of will; and oath of executor.

Record of Letters, Bonds, Oaths, etc. of Administrators and Executors, September, 1839–November, 1842.

The volume is on top of files in the office.

Administrators', Executors', and Guardians' Record, 1860–1871, 1 v. (B)

Record of Administrators' and Executors' Bonds, Oaths, and Letters, 1854–1860, 1 v.

Administrators' Record, 1869–date, 2 v. (C–D)

Executors' Record, 1872–date, 2 v. (C–D)

Guardians' Record, 1873–date, 2 v.

Guardians' Record, April, 1845–December, 1849, 1 v.

This contains only record of appointment of guardians by court. The book is not labeled.

INVENTORIES, APPRAISEMENTS, AND SALE BILLS

Inventory, Appraisement, and Sale Bill Record, 1859–1874, 1 v. (A)

Probate Ledger, 1859–1897, 1 v. (A)

Administrators' and guardians' accounts of money received and spent are recorded.

Administrators' Accounts, 1831–1843, 1 v.

Administrators' Report Record, 1871–1901, 6 v. (A–F)

"Miscellaneous Old Papers," 1 f.b.

These include appraisement and sale bills, 1821–1823, writs ad quod damnum, 1816–1831; pension and Negro freedom papers, and agricultural society papers for 1870.

Record of Decrees and Reports of Sale in Probate, 1901–date, 1 v. (A)

Clerk of the Circuit Court

CIRCUIT COURT RECORDS

Circuit Court Record, 1815–1906, 15 v. and 1 current v.

Circuit Court Files (common law, criminal, and chancery), 1815–date, 104 f.b.

All case papers are filed together chronologically.

Naturalization Record, 1865–1883, 1 v. (A)

Naturalization Papers, 1854–date, 4 f.b.

DOCKETS AND FEE BOOKS

General Docket, 1874–date, 2 v. (A–B)

Bar Docket, 1855–1860, 2 v.; 1876–1889, 1 v.; 1892–1895, 1 v.; 1898–date, 2 v.

Clerks' Docket, 1876–1895, 3 v.

Judges' Docket, 1860–date, 5 v. (E–I)

Judgment Docket, 1826–1874, 2 v.; 1893–date, 1 v.

Judgment and Execution Docket, 1874–1892, 1 v.

Execution Docket, 1816–1850, 1 v.; 1852–date, 1 v.

Docket of Mechanics' Liens, 1891–date, 1 v.
Claims for Liens, etc., 1884–date, 1 f.b.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

States Attorneys' Report Record, 1886–date, 1 v.
Reports of States Attorney, 1875–date, 1 f.b.

These are filed in the same box with masters' in chancery reports of sale, 1880–1911, and grand jury reports on county buildings, poor farm, etc., 1894–1910.

Jury Lists: Jury Book No. 1, April, 1863–April, 1873, 1 v.; 1893–1911, 1 v.; Grand and Petit Jurors, 1843–1851, 1 v.; 1832–1842, in court minutes, in case near door.
"County Clerk's Certificates of Names of Grand Jurors. Venires of Grand and Petit Jurors in Circuit Court," 1820–1823, 1831–date, 1 f.b.
Register of Fees, 1887–date, 2 v. (2–3)

Circuit Clerk—Recorder

DEED AND MORTGAGE RECORDS

Entry Book, 1874–date, 4 v. (A–D)
Land Entry Book, 1815–1855, 1 v.

The volume is copied from the auditors' books.

Tract Book, 1874, 1 v.

Record of United States surveys.

Surveyors' Record, 1875–date, 3 v. (1–3)
Plat Book, 1907–date, 1 v.
Record of Sheriffs' Certificates of Sale and Redemption, 1874–date, 2 v.
Record of Sheriffs' Certificates of Levy, 1871–date, 2 v.
Record of Sheriffs' Certificates of Levy and Sale, 1857–1871, 1 v.
Record of Masters' Certificates of Sale and Redemption, 1897–date, 1 v. (1)
Applications for Bounty, 1866–1867, nos. 1–244.

The headings are as follows: number; name of applicant; name of deceased; company; regiment; state; date of enlistment; date of death; cause of death; where discharged and date; and date of application. The papers are on top of the case in circuit clerk's office. There is no label and no index.

Soldiers' Discharge Record, 1863 *et seq.*, 1 v.

Receipts, Bonds, Oaths, Appointments, etc., 1838–date, 1 f.b.

Stallion Register, 1903–date, 1 v.

Entries of Conveyances (lots), 1872–1875, 1 v.

The volume is blank after p. 8.

Entries of Conveyances (lands), 1872–1875, 1 v.

The volume is blank after p. 23.

Swamp Land Sales, 1873–1874, 1 f.b.

Old commissions signed by Edwards, Coles, Pope, and Bond, 1814–1824, are in the same box.

EFFINGHAM COUNTY[1]

The county was organized in 1833 from territory formerly attached to Fayette and Crawford; the county seat is Effingham. The courthouse is located in a square, but is not fireproof. The records of both clerks are on wooden shelving in their offices.

County Clerk

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' AND SUPERVISORS' RECORDS

"Roads Record" (county commissioners' record), 1833–1866, 3 v.

County Commissioners' and Supervisors' Record, 1867–date, 4 v. (D–G)

Register of County Orders, 1852–1865, 1 v.; 1865–date, 2 v.

Register of Birth and Death Certificates, Jury Certificates, etc., 1906–date, 1 v. (1)

COUNTY COURT RECORDS

County Court Record, 1872–date, 1 v. each for common law and criminal.

Default Record, 1872–1892, 1 v. (A)

Insanity Record, 1886–date, 2 v.

Insane and Conservators' Record, 1879–date, 2 v.

Inventory of Estate of Assignor, 1894, 1 v.; 1897, 1 v.

Naturalization Record, 1860–1906, 2 v.

Judges' Docket, Common Law and (after 1911) Criminal, 1873–date, 2 v. (1–2); Criminal, 1894–1910, 1 v.

Current docket is loose leaf.

Execution Docket, 1872–date, 1 v.

Insanity Docket, 1893–date, 1 v.

A loose-leaf record is used.

Fee Book, 1872–date, 3 v. (D–F)

Insanity Fee Book, 1893–date, 2 v.

[1] Examined July, 1912; reëxamined April, 1914.

TAXATION RECORDS

Abstracts of Footings, Assessment Rolls, 1873–1893, 1 v.; 1907–date, 1 v.

Docket of Rates and Amounts Wanted, 1883–date, 2 v.

Original Land Entry Book, 2 v.

Assessors' Transcripts of Original Land Entries, 1 v.

Entries of Conveyances, 1872–1873, 2 v.

School and Road District Plats, 1910–1911, 1 v.

Assessors' Books, 1 v. each for 1854, 1855, 1856, 1859, 1860; also 1870–date.

Collectors' Books, 1860–date.

One was found for 1851.

County Clerks' Receipts for Tax Books, 1840–1861, 3 v.

Board of Review Record, 1899–date, 2 v.

Board of Review Complaint Docket, 1899–date, 2 v.

Tax Judgment Record, 1859–1880, 7 v.

Tax Judgment Record, Petitions, 1859–1873, 3 v.

Tax Judgment, Sale, and Redemption Record, 1874–1880, 2 v.

Tax Judgment, Sale, Redemption, and Forfeiture Record, 1881–date, 6 v.

Back Tax Record, 1870–1881, 2 v.

Record of Affidavits of Right of Minors to Redeem, 1853–1871, 1 v.

Record of Affidavits for Tax Deeds, 1874–date, 2 v.

Record of Treasurers' Accounts, County Funds, 1873–1884, 1 v.

RECORDS OF VITAL STATISTICS

Register of Marriages (record of license), 1839–1854, 2 v.; (register of license), 1854–1871, 1 v.; (register of license), 1874, 1 v.

Register of Marriages, 1878–date, 3 v.; Index by male, 2 v.

Board of health form.

Record of Applications for Marriage License, 1904–date, 4 v.

Register of Births, 1878–date, 5 v.; Index, 1 v.

Register of Still Births, 1878–1901, 1 v.

Register of Deaths, 1878–date, 4 v.; Index, 1 v.

Coroners' Record, 1875–1897, 1 v. (A)

This is a docket of inquests. The contents show the jury, witnesses, record, verdict, occupation, and description of deceased, inventory, how corpse was disposed of, and remarks.

Register of Physicians and Accoucheurs, 1878–date, 1 v.
Record of Physicians, 1877–date, 3 v.
Record of Veterinary Surgeons, 1910–date, 1 v.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Patent Record, 1866–1872, 1 v.
Register of County Officers, c. 1840, 3 small v.; 1865-date, 1 v.
Record of States Attorneys' Reports to County Court, 1890–1893, 1 v.
Estray Record, 1862–1891, 2 v.
Record of Marks and Brands, 1840–1868, 1 v.
Militia Roll Record, 1861–1862, 1 v.
Miscellaneous Record, 1891–date, 1 v.
Record of Supervisor's Bond for Dog Tax, 1882–1890, 1 v.
Record of Accounts of County Clerk with Physicians for Births and Deaths, etc., 1902–1903, 1 v.
Jurors' Receipts for Fees, 1852–1906, 1 v.
Register of Receipts and Expenditures, 1874–1875, 1 v.; 1861–1901, 1 v., in loft; 1902–date, 1 v.

County Clerk—Probate

PROBATE COURT RECORDS

Probate Court Record, 1850–date, 15 v. (A–O)
Miscellaneous Probate Record, 1849–1854, 1 v.
Probate Record, 1835–1849, 1 v.
Record of Claims Allowed against Estates, 1850–1877, 1 v.

DOCKETS AND FEE BOOKS

Docket of Claims Allowed, 1877–date, 2 v.
Judges' Probate Docket, 1881–date, 9 v. (D–L)
Probate Judgment Docket, 1862–1887, 3 v. (A–C)
Docket of Settlements Due, 1873–1894, 1 v.
Probate Fee Book, 1849–1859, 1 v.; 1859–1872, 1 v.; 1861–1870, 1 v.; 1869–1871, 1 v.; 1873–1877, 1 v.; 1874–1880, 1 v.; 1881–1898, 2 v.; 1886–1904, 1 v.; also current Guardians and Conservators (C and D)

RECORDS OF WILLS, BONDS, AND LETTERS

Record of Wills, 1839–1850, 1 v.; 1849–date, 6 v. (A–F)
The first volume contains also sale bills and inventories.

Administrators' Record, 1854–1863, 1 v.; 1862–1871, 1 v.; 1877–date, 4 v. (B–E)
The volume for 1854–1863 contains guardians' record also.

Administrators' Record, de bonis non, and will annexed, 1879–1884, 1 v.; 1905–date, 1 v.

Executors' Record, 1872–date, 3 v.
Volume A, 1872–1884, is a record of both administrator and executor.

Guardians' Record, 1871–date, 6 v. (A–F)

INVENTORIES, APPRAISEMENTS, SALE BILLS, ETC.

Inventory and Appraisement and Sale Bill Record, 1854–1869, 1 v.

Inventory Record, 1890–date, 3 v. (A–C)

Guardians' Inventory Record, 1873–date, 1 v.

Appraisement Record, 1862–date, 5 v. (B–F)

Sale Bill Record, 1854–1875, 1 v.

Sale Record, Personal Property, 1872–date, 2 v. (A–B)

Report Record, Guardians, Administrators, and Executors, 1889–1890, 1 v.

Administrators', Executors', and Guardians' Accounts Current, 1850–date, 4 v.

Insolvent Record, 1876–1886, 1 v.

Widows' Relinquishment and Selection Record, 1884–date, 3 v. (A–C)

Record of Sale of Real Estate to Pay Debts: Administrators, 1874–1888, 2 v.; Guardians, 1874–1895, 1 v.; 1880–1889, 1 v.; 1910–date, 1 v.

Clerk of the Circuit Court

CIRCUIT COURT RECORDS

Circuit Court Record, 1833–date, 30 v.; Criminal, 1868–1885, 2 v. extra.
Application for tax judgment, 1839–1848, 1 v.

Order for Discharge under Parole Law, 1898, 1 v.
There is only one entry.

Probation Record (request for release on probation), 1912, 1 v.
There is but one entry.

Index to Court Record, 4 v. each for plaintiff and defendant.
Circuit Court Files, 668 f.b.

These are indexed down to 1874 in a book index, since then on the regular index.

Naturalization Record: Declaration of Intention and Final Certificate, 1859–1892, 2 v.; Minors, 1870–1888, 1 v.

DOCKETS, FEE BOOKS, ETC.

Judges' Docket, 1868–1909, 4 v.; current, loose-leaf docket, 4 v.
General Docket, 1873–date, 2 v.
Court Docket, 1833–1848, 1 v.
Clerks' Docket, 1872–1873, 2 v.; 1885–1906, 4 v.
Bar Docket, 1894 *et seq.*, 2 v.
Judgment Docket, 1840–1847, 1 v., in loft; 1853–1872, 1 v.; 1865–1870, 1 v.
Execution Docket, 1833–1880, 3 v.
Default and Judgment Docket, 1859–1879, 1 v.

This is a court record form.

Judgment and Execution Docket, 1874–date, 4 v.
Lien and Satisfaction Docket [Docket of Mechanics' Liens], 1887–date, 1 v.
Fee Book, 1855–date, 21 v. (A–U)

There is also an extra volume marked "A" which is without date.

Justice of the Peace Transcript Record, 1852–date, 4 v.
States Attorneys' Report Record, 1873–date, 1 v.
Docket of Fines, 1869–1878, 1 v.
Register of Jurors, etc., 1859–1878, 1 v.

Circuit Clerk—Recorder

DEED AND MORTGAGE RECORDS

Entry Book, 1833–date, 7 v. (A–F, 2 v. A)
Record of Deeds and Mortgages, 1833–date, 146 v.
Plat Record, 1 v.; Index, 1 v.
Record of Sheriffs' Tax Deeds and Deeds on Execution, 1868–1875, 1 v.
Record of Illinois Central Railroad Deeds, 1870–1908, 1 v.
Index, 1833–date, 13 v. each for grantor and grantee.

Index to Marginal Releases and Assignments, 1910–date, 1 v. each for grantor and grantee.

Chattel Mortgage Record, 1908–date, 4 v. (1–4)

Record of Affidavits of Extension of Chattel Mortgages, 1890–date, 1 v.

Chattel Mortgage Index, 1878–date, 2 v. (5–6)

CERTIFICATES OF LEVY, SALE, AND REDEMPTION

Record of Sheriffs' Certificates of Sale, 1869–date, 2 v.

Record of Sheriffs' Certificates of Levy, 1861–date, 1 v.

This also contains certificates of redemption, 1861–date.

Record of Masters' Certificates of Sale and Redemption, 1869–date, 2 v.

Record of Masters' Certificates of Purchase, 1889–date, 1 v.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Road Plat Record, 1894–date, 1 v.

Surveyors' Record (plats), 1859–1885, 1 v.

Record of Town Collectors' Bonds, 1861–date, 4 v.

Record of Town Treasurers' Bonds, 1890–date, 1 v.

Stallion Register, 1911–date, 1 v.

Record of Lien on Gets of Stallions, 1890, 1 v.

There is one entry.

Record of Soldiers' Discharges, 1865–1880, 1 v.

Assessment of Damages for Property Condemned for Vandalia Railroad, 1868–1870, 1 v.

Register of Fees Received by Circuit Clerk, 1873–date, 7 v.

FAYETTE COUNTY[1]

The county was set off in 1821, including territory formerly in Bond, Jefferson, Wayne, Crawford, and Clark; the county seat is Vandalia. The courthouse is in a public square but it is the old state capitol and is by no means fireproof. The vaults are twelve by fourteen feet and eleven feet high with three foot walls; the ceilings are of vaulted masonry supported by iron beams three feet apart; steel shelves and filingboxes are used. Supervisors' papers, 1844–1894, election papers, death and birth reports, 1877–1902, fee books, tax books, entry books, etc. are piled in little order in hall upstairs.

County Clerk

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' AND SUPERVISORS' RECORDS

County Commissioners' Record, 1839–1849, 2 v. (C–D)

County Court Record, 1849–1857, 1 v. (A)

Supervisors' Record, 1857–date, 7 v. (B–H)

Supervisors' Papers, 1850–1895, 53 f.b., in hall upstairs; 1895–date, in vault.

Road Papers, 1821–c. 1875, 3 f.b. (66, 74, 33)

The papers include petitions, surveys, plats, reports of road viewers, etc. Box 66 contains a survey of that part of the old national road lying in Fayette county.

Jury List, 1872–1884, 1 v.

COUNTY COURT RECORDS

County Court Record, 1872–date: Common Law, 2 v. (1–2); Criminal, 2 v. (1–2)

Default Record, 1873–1899, 1 v. (A)

Pages 127–416 are blank.

County Court Files, 1872–date, 22 f.b.

Index to County Court Files (by plaintiff and defendant), 1872–date, 1 v.

[1] Examined June, 1912.

Special Assessment Record, 1905–date, 1 v. (A)

Drainage Record, 1880–1890, 1 v. (A)

The volume contains petitions to establish drainage districts, assessment of damages done by ditches, record of levy for work, etc.

Levee and Drainage Record, 1903–date, 4 v. (1–4)

Drainage Papers, 1903–date, 12 f.b.

Assignment Record, 1884–1898, 1 v. (A)

Inventories of goods and chattels of assignees are recorded.

Adoption Record, 1882–date, 1 v. (A)

Juvenile Court Record, 1906–date, 1 v. (1)

Insane and Conservators' Record, 1882–1893, 1882–1909, 1 v. (A)

Findings and verdict in insanity cases are given for 1882–1893; and bonds and letters of conservators for 1882–1909.

Insanity Record, 1893–date, 1 v.

Naturalization Record, Declaration of Intention, 1866–1903, 1 v. (A)

Pages 49–412 are blank.

Record of Final Certificate of Naturalization, 1866–1902, 1 v. (A); 1904–1906, 1 v. (1)

Pages 138–428 of the first volume, and pp. 9–544 of the second are blank.

Minors' and Soldiers' Naturalization Record, 1872–1902, 1 v. (A)

Pages 55–600 are blank.

Judges' Docket, 1872–date, 4 v. (1–4)

Judgment Docket, 1872–date, 2 v. (1–2)

Execution Docket, 1872–date, 1 v. (1)

Fee Book (common law and criminal), 1872–date, 5 v. (1–5)

Insanity Fee Book, 1890–date, 2 v. (1–2)

TAXATION RECORDS

Abstracts of Assessment and Taxes, 1874–1884, 2 v., in hall upstairs.

Aggregate of Taxes, 1900–date, 2 v. (1–2)

This records the assessed value of each class of property, and its equalized value; amount of state, county and special taxes and rate per cent; also the aggregate of school taxes by districts.

Docket of Rates and Amounts Wanted, 1876–1892, 1 v.

Tax Lists, 1830–1835, in f.b. 32; 1837, in cupboard 3 in hall upstairs.[1]

Railroad Tax Schedules, 1870–date, 11 f.b.

"Entry Book A," c. 1820–1880, 1 v.

This contains original land entries. It is a copy of the original volume, labeled "Tract Book," which is also in the vault.

Township School Plat Book, 1856–1863, 1 v.; 1868–1907, 1 v. (1); 1866–1883, 1 v.

Assessors' Books, 1853–date.

Collectors' Books, 1855–date.

All collectors' and assessors' books except those for the last few years are in hall upstairs.

Board of Review Record, 1899–date, 2 v. (1–2)

Board of Review Complaint Docket, 1899–1909, 1 v. (1)

Tax Judgment Record, 1859–1879, 5 v. (A–E)

Tax Sale and Redemption Record, 1859–1880, 4 v. (A–D)

Tax Judgment, Sale, Redemption, and Forfeiture Record, 1880–date, 8 v.

Record of Affidavits for Tax Deeds, 1875–date, 4 v. (1–4)

RECORDS OF VITAL STATISTICS

Register of Marriages, May, 1821–December, 1877, 2 v. (A–B)

The pages are ruled into columns for date of license, names of parties, name of person giving consent to marriage, date married, by whom. Volume B, 1874–1877, has a column for ages also. Volume A is a transcript record copied from two old records, one 6 x 8 inches and the other 8 x 13 inches.

Register of Marriages, 1878–date, 3 v. (A–C)

Board of health form.

Index to Marriages, 1821–1877, 1 v. (A), indexed by male only; 1878–date, 2 v. (1–2), indexed by male and female.

[1]In the tax list for 1837, slaves and slave owners are listed as follows:

Owners	Slaves		Horses	
	Number	Value	Number	Value
Jas. W. Berry.....	2	$300	1	$50
E. C. Berry.....	2	$300	5	$300
W. L. D. Ewing.....	1	$300	4	$495
R. K. McLaughlin....	1	$150	12	$980
James T. B. Stapp....	2	$200	1	$40

The total number of tax payers recorded was 718.

Record of Marriage Affidavits and Consent of Parents, 1881–date, 6 v. (2–7)

The volumes contain affidavits as to names, ages, etc., and consents of parents when parties are not of age.

Marriage Licenses, 1821–date, 29 f.b.

Register of Births, 1877–date, 4 v. (A–D)

Register of Still Births, 1878–1902, 1 v. (A)

Register of Deaths, 1877–date, 3 v. (1–3)

Index to Births and Deaths, 1877–date, 2 v. (A–B)

Birth Reports, 1877–1901, 6 f.b., in hall upstairs; 1902–date, 3 f.b., in vault.

Death Reports, 1877–1901, 4 f.b., in hall upstairs; 1902–date, 2 f.b., in vault.

Register of Physicians and Accoucheurs, 1877–date, 1 v. (1)

Register of Dentists, 1877–date, 1 v. (1)

Record of Physicians' Certificates, 1877–date, 1 v. (A)

Census Schedule, 1835, 1 folio, cupboard 3 in hall upstairs.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Election Papers: Vandalia poll book, 1852; poll books, tally sheets and abstracts, November, 1860; poll books, 1862, in cupboard 3 in hall upstairs.

Election Returns, 1821–1880, 26 f.b. (1–25, 98)

The returns include poll books, tally sheets, and abstracts of votes.

Indentures, 1827–1862, 1 f.b. (71)

These are apprenticeship and Negro indentures.

Assessors' Bond Record, 1899–date, 1 v. (1)

Official Bond Record, 1878–1908, 1 v. (A)

Justices' and constables' bonds.

Justices' and Constables' Official Bond Record, 1908–date, 1 v. (B)

Miscellaneous Bond Record, 1878–date, 1 v. (1)

The volume records the bonds of sheriff, county clerk, and other county officers.

Register of Officers, 1860–1891, 1 v. (B)

Militia Roll Record, 1861–1862, 1 v. (A)

Certificates of Thoroughbred Stock, 1888–1908, 1 v. (1)

Pages 3–320 are blank.

Swamp Land Book, c. 1855, 1 v.

This is an abstract of swamp lands surveyed by county surveyor, giving location, description, number of acres, and remarks as to kind of land.

County Clerk—Probate

PROBATE COURT RECORDS

Probate Record, 1821–1849, 7 v. (A–G)

All probate records of the period, wills, bonds, letters, inventories, sale bills, claims, reports, settlements, etc. are recorded.

Probate Record, January, 1850–date, 17 v. (A–Q)

The volumes contain orders and decrees, claims allowed, record of reports and settlements, petition for letters, record of papers filed, etc.

Probate Files, 1821–date, 169 f.b.

Index to Probate Files, 1821–date, 1 v.

Name of estate, and of administrator or guardian, and number of filing-box are given.

DOCKETS AND FEE BOOKS

Probate Judges' Docket, 1855–date, 4 v. (A–D)

Estate Docket, 1854–1902, 4 v. (A–D), labeled "Probate Docket."

Estate Ledger, 1866–date, 6 v. (A–D, 1–2)

This is a list of claims allowed against estates.

Probate Judgment Docket, 1857–1876, 1 v. (A)

Probate Fee Book, 1860–date, 13 v. (A–M)

RECORDS OF WILLS, BONDS, AND LETTERS

Will and Executors' Record, 1861–date, 6 v. (A–F)

Copies of wills, executors' bonds, letters, etc. are recorded.

Record of Administrators' and Guardians' Bonds and Letters, 1858–1867, 1 v.

Administrators' Record, 1867–date, 6 v. (A–F)

Conservators' Record, 1910–date, 1 v. (1)

Guardians' Record, 1867–date, 6 v. (A–F)

Miscellaneous Bonds and Letters, 1873–date, 2 v. (A–B)

The volumes contain letters and bonds of administrators de bonis non, etc.

INVENTORIES, APPRAISEMENTS, AND SALE BILLS

Record of Inventories, Sale Bills, Bonds and Letters, etc., 1849–1859, 3 v. (A–C), labeled "Probate Record."

Record of Inventories, Appraisements and Sale Bills, 1859–1863, 1 v., labeled "Probate Record D."

Inventory Record, 1863–date, 8 v. (A–H)

Guardians' Inventory Record, 1873–date, 2 v. (A–B)

Appraisement Record, 1863–date, 8 v. (A–H)

Sale Record, 1863–date, 4 v. (A–D)

Private Sale Record, 1887–date, 1 v. (D)

Guardians' Sale Record, 1874–1899, 1 v. (B)

Pages 17–291 are blank.

REPORTS, ETC.

Record of Accounts Current, 1849–1860, 1 v. (1)

This is an account of all money received from estates and lists of claims and expenditures.

Report Record, 1870–1897, 4 v. (A–D)

Guardians' Report Record, 1885–date, 3 v. (B–D)

Administrators' Report Record, 1897–date, 3 v. (E–G)

Insolvent Estate Record, 1876–date, 1 v. (A)

Widows' Relinquishment and Selection Record, 1867–date, 4 v. (A–D)

Record of Proceedings on Petitions to Sell Real Estate to Pay Debts, 1867–date, 4 v. (A–D)

The volumes contain the decree and report of sale. Pages 51–420 of v. A are blank.

Record of Proceedings on Guardians' Petitions to Sell Real Estate to Pay Debts, 1877–1891, 1 v. (1)

Pages 90–288 are blank.

Clerk of the Circuit Court

CIRCUIT COURT RECORDS

Circuit Court Record (common law, criminal, and chancery), 1821–date, 47 v. (A–47)

Up to 1880, common law, chancery and criminal records were kept in same volumes; since 1880 they have been kept in separate volumes, which are numbered in the same series.

Index to Court Records, 1858–date, 4 v. each for plaintiff and defendant.

Circuit Court Files (common law, chancery, and criminal), 1821–date, 299 f.b.; Index, 1 v.

Naturalization Record: Final Certificate (adults), 1875–1889, 1 v.; Petition, Oath, and Certificate (minors), 1880, 1 v.

DOCKETS, FEE BOOKS, ETC.

Judges' Docket, 1842–date, 22 v. (A–V)
Judgment Docket, 1858–date, 3 v. (A–C)
Execution Docket, 1878–date, 1 v. (2)
Docket of Mechanics' Liens, 1891–date, 1 v. (1)
Circuit Court Fee Book, 1856–date, 34 v. (A–N, 1–20)
Volumes A–L are in hall upstairs.

Justice of the Peace Transcript Record, 1857–date, 3 v. (1–3)
Record of Masters' Reports, 1873–date, 1 v. (1)
This is a report of moneys received for lands sold by order of court.

States Attorneys' Report Record, 1883–1908, 1 v. (1)

CIRCUIT CLERK—RECORDER

Entry Book, 1821–1848, 1 v.; 1874–date, 7 v. (A–G)
Deed and Mortgage Record, 1821–date, 201 v.
Up to 1861, deeds and mortgages were recorded in the same volumes. Since that time, deeds, mortgages, and chattel mortgages have been kept in separate volumes but in the same series and the volumes are numbered consecutively.

General Index, 1821–date, 8 v. each for grantor and grantee.
Mortgage Index, 1882–date, 4 v. each for mortgagor and mortgagee.
Chattel Mortgage Index, 1872–date, 3 v. (1–3)
Index to Marginal Releases, 1905–date, 1 v. (1)
Record of Sheriffs' Certificates of Levy, Sale, and Redemption, 1862–date, 2 v.
Record of Masters' Certificates of Sale and Redemption, 1873–date, 3 v. (1–3)
"Field Notes," 1875, 1 v.
The record of United States surveys; it contains descriptions and plats of corners of sections and quarter sections, etc.

Surveyors' Record, 1844–1849, 1 v.; 1856–date, 3 v. (1–3)
Record of Certificates of Election of Trustees, 1873–date, 1 v. (A)
Township Treasurers' Bond Record, 1891–date, 1 v. (1)

Collectors' Bond Record, 1873–date, 3 v. (2–4)

"Ledger A. Vandalia Lots," c. 1820–1839, 1 v.

This is a record of sale of lots in the city of Vandalia by the state commissioners, giving number of lot, date of sale, price and name of purchaser.

FORD COUNTY[1]

The county was set off from Vermilion in 1859; the county seat is Paxton. The courthouse is situated in a square. The building, which was erected in 1906, is fireproof. The vaults are good, and are furnished with metallic shelves and filingboxes. The various files in the county clerk's office are well arranged and have just been reindexed.

County Clerk

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' AND SUPERVISORS' RECORDS

Supervisors' Record, 1859–date, 7 v. (A–G)

Supervisors' Papers, 1892–date, 34 f.b.

Jury List, 1872–date, 2 v.

COUNTY COURT RECORDS

County Court Record, 1872–date, 3 v. (A–C)

Common law and criminal records are in the same volumes.

Confession Record, 1886–date, 1 v. (A)

This is a record of judgments by confession.

County Court Files, 1872–date: Common Law, 17 f.b.; Criminal, 8 f.b.; Adoptions, 2 f.b.; Insanity (1860–date), 13 f.b.

Index to County Court and Miscellaneous Files, 1 v.

Record of Special Assessments for Local Improvements, 1906–date, 3 v. (1–3)

Drainage Record, 1880–date, 12 v. (A–L)

Drainage Papers, 1880–date, 37 f.b.

Assignment and Miscellaneous Record, 1894–1906, 1 v. (B)

The volume contains records of assignment, inventories of goods of assignee, and miscellaneous records.

Insanity Record, 1883–date, 3 v. (1–2, A)

Insanity Files, 1860–1906, 6 f.b.

Naturalization Record, 1860–1906, 9 v.

Naturalization Papers, 1860–1906, 6 f.b.

[1] Examined July, 1912.

County Court Docket, 1872–date, 5 v. (A–E)
Judgment Docket, 1870–1875, 1 v. (1)
Execution Docket, 1870–1875, 1 v. (1)
Judgment and Execution Docket, 1875–date, 2 v. (2–3)
Insanity Docket, 1893–date, 2 v. (A–B)
County Court Fee Book (common law and criminal), 1872–date, 5 v. (A–E)

TAXATION RECORDS

Abstracts of Assessment and Taxes, 1875–date, 5 v.
These contain tabular statements showing the total footings of the assessors' books, real and personal, for each township; and also a grand summary of all property in county.

County Clerks' Statement of Taxes to Auditor (statement of assessment), 1889–1904, 1 v.
Docket of Rates and Amounts Wanted, 1893–date, 3 v. (1–3)
School Plat Record, 1871–1905, 1 v. (A)
Plats of school districts are recorded.

Railroad Tax Schedules, 1888–date, 3 f.b.
These are schedules submitted by railroads showing taxable property.

Assessors' Books, 1859–date.
Collectors' Books, 1859–date.
Railroad Tax Book, 1874–1891, 2 v., lower vault; 1892–date, 2 v. (1 and A)
Telephone and Telegraph Tax Book, 1884–date, 3 v. (1–3)
Tax Judgment Record, 1866–1879, 4 v. (1–4)
Tax Sale and Redemption Record, 1864–1879, 4 v. (1–4)
Tax Judgment, Sale, Redemption, and Forfeiture Record, 1880–date, 8 v. (5–12)
Index to Tax Sales, 1863–date: Town Lots, 1 v.; Lands, 1 v.
Record of Affidavits for Tax Deeds, 1870–date, 7 v. (A–G)
Affidavits for Tax Deeds, 1860–date, 22 f.b., in vault.

RECORDS OF VITAL STATISTICS

Marriage Register, 1859–1877, 2 v. (1–2)
Volume 1, 1859–1874, gives names of parties, date of license, when and by whom married; v. 2 gives ages of parties also.

Register of Marriages, 1878–date, 3 v. (1–3)
Board of health form is used.

Record of Applications for Marriage License, 1905–date, 3 v. (1–3)
Marriage Licenses, 1859–date, 20 f.b.
Index to Marriages, 1859–date, 2 v. each for male and female.
Register of Births, 1878–date, 3 v. (1–3); Index, 1 v.
Register of Deaths, 1878–date, 4 v. (1–4); Index, 1 v.
Birth and Death Reports, 1905–date, 6 f.b.
Register of Physicians and Accoucheurs, 1878–date, 1 v.
Record of Physicians' Certificates, 1878–date, 2 v. (1–2)
Agricultural Statistics for years 1877, 1878, 1880, 1881, 1883, 1884, 1886, 1887, and 1888, 9 v.
Census Schedules, 1880, 2 v.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Election Papers, 1886–1910, 24 f.b.
These include poll books, tally sheets, and abstracts of votes.

Justices' and Constables' Bond Record, 1881–date, 2 v. (A–B)
Justices' Bond Record, 1865–1873, 1 v. (A)
Assessors' Bond Record, 1899–date, 1 v. (A)
Register of County Officers, 1861–date, 3 v. (1–3)
Militia Roll Record, 1861–1862, 1 v. (A)
Swamp Land Sale Record, 1863–1865, 1 v. (A)
The contents record description of land; when and to whom sold; amount and price.

County Clerk—Probate

PROBATE COURT RECORDS

Probate Court Journal, 1859–date, 13 v. (A–M)
Volumes A and B are in basement vault.

Miscellaneous Probate Record, 1883–date, 2 v.
Letters and bonds of administrators de bonis non, with will annexed, etc. are recorded.

Probate Files, 1859–date: Executors, 31 f.b.; Administrators, 40 f.b.; Guardians, 21 f.b.
Index to Probate Files, 1 v.
Probate Judges' Docket, 1859–date, 12 v. (A–L)
Probate Estate Docket, 1859–1861, v. A (only a few pages used); 1871–1893, v. 1.

Probate Judgment Docket, 1859–1904, 3 v. (A–C)
Continued in Estate, claim, and judgment docket.

Estate, Claim, and Judgment Docket, 1904–date, 1 v. (D)
One-half of one page is given to estate docket; the other one and one-half pages to list of claims filed and judgment thereon.

Probate Fee Book, 1862–date, 7 v. (A–G)

RECORDS OF WILLS, BONDS, AND LETTERS

Record of Wills, 1862–date, 4 v. (A–D)
Administrators' Record, 1859–date, 4 v. (A–D)
Executors' Record, 1860–date, 4 v. (A–D)
Conservators' Record, 1908–date, 1 v. (A)
Guardians' Record, 1859–date, 3 v. (A–C)

INVENTORIES, APPRAISEMENTS, SALE BILLS, ETC.

Inventory, Appraisement, and Sale Bill Record, 1859–1873, 1 v. (A)
Inventory Record, 1873–date, 5 v. (B–F)
Guardians' Inventory Record, 1873–date, 2 v. (A–B)
Appraisement Record, 1873–date, 4 v. (B–E)
Sale Bill Record, 1873–date, 4 v. (B–E)
Report Record, 1883–date, 8 v. (C–J)
Widows' Relinquishment and Selection Record, 1875–date, 3 v. (A–C)
Record of Proceedings on Petitions to Sell Real Estate to Pay Debts, 1871–1905, 2 v. (A–B)

Clerk of the Circuit Court

CIRCUIT COURT RECORDS

Circuit Court Record, 1859–date, 35 v. (A–Z, 27–35)
Since 1899 (v. X), common law, criminal, and chancery proceedings are recorded in separate volumes, which are numbered consecutively.

Circuit Court Files, 1859–date: Chancery, 65 f.b.; Common Law, 103 f.b.; Criminal, 15 f.b.
Naturalization Record, 1859–1906, 4 v. (A–D)

DOCKETS, FEE BOOKS, ETC.

Judges' Docket, 1859–date, 15 v. (A–O)

Clerks' Docket, 1859–date, 20 v. (1–20)
Judgment Docket, 1859–1874, 2 v. (A–B)
Execution Docket, 1859–1874, 2 v. (A–B)
Judgment and Execution Docket, 1874–date, 8 v. (C–J)
Docket of Mechanics' Liens, 1887–date, 1 v. (1)
Fee Book, 1859–date, 19 v.
Justice of the Peace Transcript Record, 1859–date, 2 v. (A–B)
States Attorneys' Report Record, 1873–1898, 1 v.
Indictment Record, 1873–date, 3 v. (A–C)

Circuit Clerk—Recorder

DEED AND MORTGAGE RECORDS

Entry Book, 1859–date, 9 v. (A–I)
Deed Record, 1859–date, 75 v. (1–75)
Mortgage Record, 1859–date, 58 v. (1–58)
Release Record, 1859–date, 15 v. (1–15)
Plat Book, 1857–date, 1 v.
General Index, 1859–date, 9 v. (A–I) each for grantor and grantee.
Chattel Mortgage Record, 1873–date, 26 v. (4–29)

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Record of Sheriffs' and Masters' Certificates of Levy, Sale, and Redemption, 1866–date, 2 v. (A–B)
Field Notes of United States Surveys, 1877, 1 v.
Survey notes and plats locating corners of sections and quarter sections.
Surveyors' Record, 1875–date, 1 v. (1)
Collectors' Bond Record, 1861–date, 2 v. (A–B)
Grand Army of the Republic, Paxton Post, 387: Personal War Sketches, 1 v.

FRANKLIN COUNTY[1]

Franklin county was formed in 1818 from territory formerly attached to White, Jackson, and Gallatin; the county seat is Benton. The courthouse, while partly protected against fire by its location in a public square, is not fireproof. The vaults are fireproof and though small are large enough to accommodate the records. The filing equipment, however, is old; the papers are in cardboard filingboxes fitted in wooden pigeonholes, and the books are stored on end in wooden racks. The courthouse of Franklin county was burned in 1843, practically all the records going with it.

County Clerk

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' AND SUPERVISORS' RECORDS

County Commissioners' Record, March, 1838–September, 1862, 4 v. (A–D)

County Court Record, December, 1862–March, 1872, 1 v. (E)

Supervisors' Record, 1872–date, 5 v. (A–E)

County Commissioners' and Supervisors' Papers, 1865–date, 25 f.b.

Register of Railroad Bonds, 1849, 1 v.

A register of bonds issued in 1849 by the county, giving names of holders, amount of interest, date of maturity, etc.

Jury List, 1872–date, 1 v. (1)

COUNTY COURT RECORDS

County Court Record, 1872–date: Common Law, 3 v.; Criminal, 5 v.

Default Record, 1873–1899, 1 v. (A)

Pages 33–572 of the default record are blank.

Index to Court Records, 1872–1904, 2 v. each for plaintiff and defendant.

County Court Files (common law and criminal), 1872–date, 77 f.b.

The papers are filed in cardboard boxes, 5 x 8 inches, which fit into wooden pigeonholes.

[1] Examined May, 1912.

Assignment Record, 1881, 1 v. (A); 1883–1893, 1 v. (B)

Volume A contains 583 p., blank after p. 4; volume B contains 597 p., blank after p. 87. Schedule of property of insolvent debtors is given.

Insane and Conservators' Record, 1879–1891, 1 v. (A)

Insanity trials with letters and bonds of conservators are recorded.

Insanity Record, 1894–date, 2 v. (1–2)

County Court Judges' Docket, 1872–date, 11 v. (A–K)

Judgment Docket, 1872–date, 3 v. (1–3)

Execution Docket, 1872–date, 1 v. (1)

County Court Fee Book: Common Law and Criminal, 1872–date, 7 v.; Insanity, 1894–date, 1 v. (A)

TAXATION RECORDS

Record of Abstracts of Assessment and Taxes, 1878–date, 2 v.

County Clerks' Statement of Taxes to Auditor, 1879–1891, 1 v. (1)

Docket of Rates and Amounts Wanted, 1883–1888, 1 v.

Land Entry Book, 1853–1855, 1 v.

The volume is labeled: "Record No. 1."

School District Plat Book, 1874, 1 v.; 1881–1911, 1 v.

Assessors' Books, 1851–date.

Collectors' Books, 1853–date.

Board of Review Record and Complaint Docket, 1899–date, 1 v. (1)

Tax Judgment Record, 1850–1879, 4 v.

Tax Sale and Redemption Record, 1859–1879, 3 v.

Record of Forfeited Lands, 1873–1879, 2 v.

Tax Judgment, Sale, Redemption, and Forfeiture Record, 1880–date, 6 v.

Record of Affidavits for Tax Deeds, 1853–1860, 1 v.; 1873–date, 5 v. (A–E)

RECORDS OF VITAL STATISTICS

Marriage Record, 1835–1855, 2 v.

Certificates of marriage, giving names of parties, and date of marriage are recorded.

Marriage Record, 1856–date, 10 v.

The contents include copy of license and certificate of marriage, giving names, residence, dates, and person officiating; and after 1874, parties' ages.

Register of Marriages, 1877–date, 3 v. (1–3); Index, 1 v. each for male and female.

The board of health form is used.

Record of Applications for Marriage License, 1878–date, 16 v.
Marriage Licenses, 1862–date, 15 f.b. and shelves in vault.
Register of Births, 1877–date, 3 v. (1–3); Index, 1 v.
Register of Still Births, 1877–date, 1 v. (1)
Register of Deaths, 1877–date, 2 v. (1–2); Index, 1 v.
Record of Coroners' Certificate of Death, 1910–date, 1 v. (A)
Birth Reports, 1877–date; Death Reports, 1877–date, 8 f.b.
Record of Physicians' Certificates, 1877–date, 2 v. (1–2)
Register of Physicians and Accoucheurs, 1877–date, 1 v.
Record of Dentists' Certificates, 1877–date, 1 v.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Abstracts of Votes, 1870–date, 3 f.b.
Assessors' Bond Record, 1899–date, 1 v. (1)
Justices' and Constables' Bond Record, 1874–date, 1 v. (1)
Register of Commissions, 1857–date, 2 v. (1–2)
Militia Roll Record, 1861–1862, 1 v.
Estray Record, 1857–1910, 2 v. (A–B)
Apprenticeship Indentures, 1850–1875, 1 f.b.
School Commissioners' Record, 1841–1878, 2 v.

The contents include record of lands sold, of school money invested in loans, and of the interest collected, etc.

Solomon Clark's Daybook, 1834–1835.

This is a daybook of accounts kept by Clark, who kept a general merchandise store at Frankfort, Illinois.

County Clerk—Probate

PROBATE COURT RECORDS

Probate Record, October, 1837–June, 1859, 1 v.

This is a transcript of volumes A, B, and C, containing wills, letters and bonds of administrators, executors, and guardians; reports and settlements; claims and orders, sale bills, inventories, etc.

Probate Record, October, 1845–September, 1851, 1 v.

Pages 1–40 contain wills, letters testamentary and of administration, and bonds; pp. 40–306 (July, 1846–September, 1851) contain record of settlements and reports made in court by administrators, guardians, etc. The volume is labeled "Probate Record B."

Probate Record, October, 1848–June, 1859, 2 v.

These are eight by twelve inch volumes, with cardboard binding, and contain all probate records, such as sale bills, reports, settlements, claims, copies of letters and bonds of administrators, wills, etc.

Probate Order Book, December, 1853–December, 1857, 1 v.

The volume is a kind of docket and minute book combined, giving orders of the court, record of claims filed, records of appointment of guardians and administrators, etc., and of reports filed, etc.

Probate Record, 1871–date, 7 v. (D–J)

Probate Files, 1843–date, 223 f.b.

Index to Probate Files: Estates, 1 v.; Guardians, 1 v.

DOCKETS AND FEE BOOKS

Probate Judges' Docket, 1859–date, 9 v. (C–K)

Probate Estate Docket, 1859–1871, 1 v. (1); 1875–date, 4 v. (A–D)

The contents include name of estate; date of death; proof of will; date of letters; name of administrator; date and amount of bond; names of widow and heirs; date and amount of sale bills and inventory; list of claims allowed.

Guardians' Docket, 1849–1893, 3 v. (1, A–B)

The headings are as follows: name of guardian and of ward; date of letters; amount and date of bond, and names of sureties; date and amount of inventories, etc.

Probate Fee Book, 1861–date, 7 v. (A–G)

RECORDS OF WILLS, BONDS, AND LETTERS

Record of Wills, 1860–date, 3 v. (A–C)

Record of Administrators' Bonds and Letters, 1859–1877, 1 v. (B); 1895–date, 3 v. (D–F)

Record of Executors' Bonds and Letters, 1864–date, 2 v. (A–B)

Record of Guardians' Bonds and Letters, 1859–date, 4 v. (B–E)

Miscellaneous Bond Record, 1884–1890, 1 v. (A)

Pages 5–285 are blank.

Additional Bond Record, 1881–1886, 1 v. (B)

There are 592 p. in the volume; all are blank after p. 6.

INVENTORIES, APPRAISEMENTS, AND SALE BILLS

Inventory, Appraisement, and Sale Record, 1845–1871, 5 v. (B–F)

Inventory Record, 1871–date, 5 v. (G–K)
Guardians' Inventory Record, 1880–date, 2 v. (1–2)
Appraisement Bill Record, 1871–date, 5 v. (G–K)
Sale Record, 1871–date, 3 v. (G–I)
Copartnership Inventory Record, 1889–1909, 1 v. (A)
Report Record, 1863–date, 4 v. (B–E)
Guardians' Report Record, 1849–1855, 1 v.; 1868–date, 3 v. (B–D)
Insolvent Estate Record, 1894–date, 1 v. (A)
Widows' Relinquishment and Selection Record, 1878–date, 3 v.
Record of Proceedings on Petitions to Sell Real Estate to Pay Debts, 1871–1887, 2 v.; 1895–1904, 1 v.

Clerk of the Circuit Court

CIRCUIT COURT RECORDS

Circuit Court Record, March, 1837–November, 1870, 5 v.
Chancery Record, 1870–date, 21 v. (F–Z)
Divorce Record, 1901–date, 2 v. (1–2)
Criminal Record, 1871–date, 4 v. (G–J)
Common Law Record, 1870–date, 5 v. (F–J)
Recognizance Record, 1869–1897, 1 v. (1)
Record of Defaults, 1861–1874, 1 v. (1)
Index to Court Records, 1858–date, 5 v. each for plaintiff and defendant.
Circuit Court Files, 1843–date, 293 f.b.

The filingboxes are paper boxes five by eight by ten inches, set in wooden pigeonholes.

Index to Court Files, 1843–date, 1 v. each for plaintiff and defendant.
Naturalization Record: Declaration of Intention, 1908–date, 3 v.; Final Certificate of Naturalization, 1908–date, 3 v.

DOCKETS AND FEE BOOKS

Judges' Docket, 1854–date, 20 v. (A–T)
Judgment Docket, 1846–1897, 3 v. (A–C)
Execution Docket, 1836–1874, 2 v. (A–B)
Judgment and Execution Docket, 1875–date, 3 v. (C–E)
Index to Judgments, 1861–date, 2 v. (1–2)

Docket of Mechanics' Liens, 1887–date, 1 v. (1)
Fee Book, 1836–1845, 1 v.; 1860–date, 16 v. (E–T)

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Register of Jurors, 1862–1877, 1 v. (A)
Justice of the Peace Transcript Record, 1847–1860, 1 v.
In the county clerk's vault; 8 x 12 inches, cardboard back.

Record of Transcripts from Justices' Docket, 1860–date, 3 v.
Masters' Report Record, 1878–date, 3 v. (A–C)
The volumes record reports of sale to foreclose mortgage, sale for partition, etc., and lands sold by decree of court.

States Attorneys' Report Record, 1878–date, 1 v. (1)
Indictment Record, 1873–date, 8 v. (A–H)
Coroners' Record, 1879–date, 3 v. (A–C)
The records include: name of party; date; names of witnesses; evidence and verdict.

Circuit Clerk—Recorder

DEED AND MORTGAGE RECORDS

Entry Book, 1854–1861, 1 v.; 1871–date, 9 v. (A–I)
Deed Record, November, 1835–date, 116 v. (B–Z, 1–91)
Volume "A" was burned in 1843.

Masters' Deed Record, 1876–date, 2 v. (A–B)
Mortgage Record, 1862–date, 46 v. (A–Z, 1–20)
Release Record, 10 v. (A–J)
General Index, 1835–date, 17 v. (A–Q) each for grantor and grantee.
Mortgage Index, 3 v. (D–F) each for mortgagor and mortgagee.
Index to Marginal Releases and Assignments, 1905–date, 1 v. (1)
Plat Record, 1880–date, 3 v. (A–C)
Chattel Mortgage Record, 1865–date, 27 v. (A–Z, 1)
Index to Chattel Mortgages, 4 v. (1–4)

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Record of Certificates of Levy, Sale, and Redemption, 1860–date, 3 v. (B–D)
Sheriffs' and masters' certificates are recorded.

Surveyors' Record, 1885–date, 2 v. (A–B)
Soldiers' Discharge Record, 1866–1899, 1 v. (A)
Collectors' Bond Record, 1870–date, 2 v. (A–B)
Township Treasurers' Bonds, 1890–date, 1 v. (1)
Stallion Register, 1910–date, 1 v. (1); Renewals, 1911–date, 1 v. (2)
Miscellaneous Record, 1875–date, 12 v. (A–L)

FULTON COUNTY[1]

The county was set off from Pike in 1823; the county seat is Lewistown. The courthouse is located in a public square and while not absolutely fireproof is fairly safe. The records are not kept in vaults, but are in steel furniture in the clerks' offices. A part of the circuit clerk's older records are in a basement storeroom, for the most part in cupboards; the records of this office are generally in excellent condition.

County Clerk

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' AND SUPERVISORS' RECORDS

County Commissioners' Record, 1823–1849; Supervisors' Record, 1849–date, 17 v.

Supervisors' Papers, 1850–date, 104 f.b.

Road and Ferry Papers, 1833–1902, 2 f.b.

Road Record, 1841–1891, 1 v.

Register of County Orders, 1881–date, 5 v. (A–E)

Orders and Receipts for County Orders, 1826–date, 12 f.b.

COUNTY COURT RECORDS

Court Record, 1872–date: Criminal, 2 v. (1 and 3); Common Law, 1 v.; Index by plaintiff and defendant, 2 v.

County Court Files, 1872–date, 24 f.b.

Drainage Record, 1900–date, 3 v.

Record of Dependent and Delinquent Children, 1907–date, 1 v.

Record of Mothers' Pensions, 1913–date, 1 v.

Adoption Record, 1895–date.

Insane and Conservators' Record, 1870–date, v. A (contains v. A, 1, and B), C, and D.

Insanity Files, 1888 [?]–date, 19 f.b.

Naturalization Record, 1860–1902, 1 v.; 1862–1868, 1 v.; 1900–1906, 2 v.

Naturalization Papers, 1878–date, 8 f.b.

[1] Examined July–August, 1912; reëxamined April, 1914.

General Docket, 1874–date.
Clerks' Docket, 1876, 1 v.; 1877, 1 v.; 1872–1891, 8 v.
Judges' Docket, 1898–1905, 1 v.
Insanity Docket, 1893–date, 1 v.
Judgment and Execution Docket, 1872–date, 3 v. (A–C)
The first volume also contains probate judgments for 1870.
Chancery Docket [?], 1892–1899, 1 v.

TAXATION RECORDS

Township Plats, 1873, 1 v.
Township School Plats, 1886–date, 1 v.
Certificates of Levy, 1837–1909, 12 f.b.
District Road Tax Lists, 1837–1903, 51 f.b.
Assessors' Books, 1840–date.
Collectors' Books, c. 1851–date.
The earlier ones are unbound.
Railroad Tax Book, 1873–date, 5 v.
Telephone and Telegraph Tax Book, 1893–1900, 1 v.
Board of Review Record, 1899–date, 1 v.
Board of Review Complaint Docket, 1899–date, 1 v.
Tax Judgment Record, 1864–1881, 4 v. (B–E)
Tax Sale Record, 1823–1858, 1 v.; 1833–1839, 2 v.; 1839–1850, 1 v.; 1850–1859, 1 v.; 1860–1877, 1 v.; 1877–1882, 1 v.
Forfeiture Record, 1870–1883, 2 v. (1–2)
Tax Judgment, Sale, Redemption, and Forfeiture Record, 1882–date.
Record of Affidavits for Tax Deeds, 1870–date, 2 v. (1–2)

RECORDS OF VITAL STATISTICS

Register of Marriages, 1844–1908, 6 v. (B–G); 1877–date, 4 v. (1–4)
The board of health form is used.
Marriage Licenses, 1824–date, 76 f.b.
Register of Births, 1878–date, 8 v. (1–7; 2 v. "3")
Register of Deaths, 1878–date, 7 v.
Record of Coroners' Certificates of Death, 1911–date, 1 v.
Birth Reports, 1878–date, 14 f.b.
Death Certificates, 1878–date, 6 f.b.

Record of Physicians and Accoucheurs, 1877–date, 1 v.
Record of Dental Certificates, 1892–date, 1 v.
Register of Physicians, 1877–date, 2 v.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Election Returns, 1899–date, 10 f.b.; Town Officers, 1839–date, 8 f.b.
Poll Books and Tally Sheets, 1836–1902, in bundles in basement.
Official Bond Record (assessors and supervisors of assessment), 1899–date, 1 v.
Constables and Justices of the Peace (bonds), 1885–date, 2 v.; 1903–date, 1 v.
Docket of Examination of Official Bonds, 1875–date, 1 v.
Record of Constables' Bonds and Supervisors' Bonds for Dog License Fees, 1885–1902, 1 v.; 1903–date, 1 v.
Register of County Officers, 1861–date, 2 v.
Estray Record, 1849–1870, 1 v.; 1870–date, 2 v.
Militia Roll, 1861–1863, 1 v.
Patent Record, 1869–1872, 1 v.
States Attorneys' Report Record, 1872–1881, 1 v.; 1888–date, 1 v.
County Ledger, 1869–1908, 2 v. (A–B)
Sale of Swamp Land Record, 1854–1856, 1 v.
Register of Receipts and Expenditures, 1874–date, 3 v.
School Schedules, 1837–1860, 3 f.b.
Miscellaneous Record, 1890–date, 2 v.

County Clerk—Probate

PROBATE COURT RECORDS

Probate Court Record, 1827–date, 24 v. (1–24)
Probate Files, 1824 [?]–date, 192 f.b.

Possibly the files date from 1824, though some of the earliest are missing; indexed as they are by numbers arbitrarily assigned it is impossible to say.

Guardians' Files, 1867 [?]–date, 35 f.b.

DOCKETS AND FEE BOOKS

Probate Estate Claim Docket, 1849–1865, 1 v.
Estate Claim Docket, 1855–date, 10 v. (A–J)
Probate Estate Docket, 1870–1872, 1 v. (A)
Probate Judgment Docket, 1859, 1 v.; 1851–1870, 1 v.

Probate Claim Ledger, 1849–1854, 1 v.; 1855–1865, 1 v.; 1855–1890, 3 v. (A–C)

Probate Docket, 1871–1891, 27 v.; also 1 v. each, 1874–1875, 1892, 1893, 1894, 1895–1896, 1896, 1897–1898, 1898–1899, 1900; 1902–date, v. P–T.

Probate Fee Book, 1848–1852, 1 v.; 1851–1865, 1 v.

Administrators and Guardians Record, 1859–date, 18 v. (A–R)

RECORDS OF WILLS, BONDS, AND LETTERS

Record of Wills, 1835–date, 11 v. (2–12)

Administrators' Record, 1860–date, 8 v. (A–H)

Executors' Record, 1859–date, 6 v. (A–F)

Guardians' Record, 1859–1872, 1 v.; 1870–date, 5 v. (B–F)

INVENTORIES, APPRAISEMENTS, SALE BILLS, ETC.

Inventory, Appraisement, and Sale Record, 1850–1859, 2 v. (3–4); 1859–1872, 6 v. (A–F);

Inventory Record, 1872–date, 10 v. (G–P)

Appraisement Record, 1872–date, 7 v. (G–M)

Conservators' Inventory Record, 1892–date, 1 v. (A)

Personal Property Sale Record (public and private), 1872–date, 5 v. (G–K)

Guardians' Inventory Record, 1871–date, 2 v. (A–B)

Guardians' Ledger, 1870–date, 2 v. (A–B)

Record of Accounts Current, 1845–date, 17 v. (3–4, A–O)

Guardians' Report Record, 1884–date, 4 v. (A–D)

Widows' Relinquishment and Selection Record, 1874–date, 2 v. (A–B)

Record of Sale of Real Estate, 1870–date, v. A–L [?]

Assignment Record, 1875–date, 6 v. (1–6)

For assignment of dower [?].

Clerk of the Circuit Court

CIRCUIT COURT RECORDS

Common Law Record, 1824–date, 22 v. (1–22)

Volumes 16 and 17 (1887–1894) are missing; probably these and the chancery records were burned in a fire said to have occurred twenty years ago.

Chancery Record, 1824–date, 44 v. (1–44)

Volumes 27 and 28 (1892–1894) are missing; v. 44 is loose leaf.

Criminal Record, 1869–date, 8 v. (1–8)
Record of Confession in Vacation, 1898–date, 1 v.
Parole Record, Discharge, 1898, 1 v.
Record of Judgment on Confession in Vacation, 1894–date, 1 v.
Index to Circuit Court Records, 2 v. each for plaintiff and defendant.

There are also a few scattered earlier indexes.

Circuit Court Files: Civil and Chancery, nos. 1–18035, 1840–date, 442 f.b.; Criminal, nos. 1–3432, 1877 [?]–date, 65 f.b.
Naturalization Record: Declaration of Intention, 1859–1886, 1 v.; Final Certificate, 1859–1892, 1 v.; Soldiers and Minors, 1865–1876, 1 v. (A)
Tax Judgment Record, Circuit Court, 1840–1849, 1 v.

DOCKETS, FEE BOOKS, ETC.

General Docket, 1885–date, 5 v. (1–5)
Judges' Term Docket, 1840–1908, c. 250 v.

Loose-leaf volumes have been in use since 1908.

Judgment Docket, 1824–1857, 3 v.
Judgment and Execution Docket, 1857–1864, 2 v.; 1865–1870, 1 v. (C); 1870–1875, 1 v. (7); 1872–1886, 1 v. (8); 1875–1881, 1 v. (9); 1881–1887, 1 v. (10); 1887–1894, 1 v. (13); 1894–date, 5 v. (14–18)
Judgment and Execution Docket, Canton City Court, 1894–date, 1 v.
Judgment Docket, Transcript from Justice of the Peace, 1888–date, 1 v. (5)
Circuit Court Fee Book, 1824–1840, 1 v.; 1831–1837, 1 v. (2); 1839, 2 v. (3–4); 1839–1842, 1 v.; 1847–1852, 1 v.; v. 7–35, 38, 40–45, 47–52.
Docket of Mechanics' Liens, 1887–date, 2 v. (1–2)
Justice of the Peace Transcript Record, 1859–date, 4 v. (3–6)
Record of Transcript of Judgment, 1890–date, 1 v.
States Attorneys' Report Record, 1872–1881, 1 v.; 1888–date, 1 v.

Circuit Clerk—Recorder

DEED AND MORTGAGE RECORDS

Entry Book, 1821–date, 22 v.

Transcribed Deed Record, 1818–1824, 3 v.
Deed and Mortgage Record, 310 v. (1–310)
Plat Book, 1890–date, 2 v.
Earlier plats are in deed record.
Grantor and Grantee and Mortgagor and Mortgagee Index, 1821–date: "inverse" indexes, 6 v.; and "direct" indexes, 6 v.; also v. 13–16; 17–19 (2 v. each number); and 4 v. of alphabetical indexes.
Tract Index, labeled "Abstract Records," c. 60 v.
Entry Book, Chattel Mortgages, 1858–date, 4 v.
Chattel Mortgage Record, 1851–date, 52 v. (A–Z, AA–OO, and 1–11)
Index to Chattel Mortgages, 2 v. (A–B)

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Record of Certificates of Levy and Sale, 1853–1878, 2 v. (1–2)
Record of Redemptions, 1851–1871, 1 v.
Record of Sheriffs' Certificates of Levy and Sale, 1893–date, 1 v. (3)
Record of Masters' Certificates of Levy and Sale, 1892–date, 1 v. (4)
Court Order Confirming Masters' Reports of Sale, 1904–date, 1 v.
Certificate Record (trustees elected, etc.), 1870–date, 4 v. (1–4)
Record of United States Surveys, 1 v.
Original Entry Book, 1 v.
Surveyors' Record, 1874–date, 1 v.
Collectors' Bond Record, 1855–date, 3 v.
Township Treasurers' Bond Record, 1890–date, 1 v.
Stallion Register, 1911–date, 2 v.
Record of Lien on Gets of Stallions, 1888–date, 1 v.
Record of Soldiers' Discharges, 1863–1865, 1 v.
Register of Fees, 1885–date, 5 v.

GALLATIN COUNTY[1]

Gallatin county was set off from Randolph in 1813; the county seat is Shawneetown. The courthouse at Shawneetown is not located in a square and is not fireproof. The interior work is wood, lath, and plaster, and the building is heated by coal stoves. The vaults are not substantial and have only single steel doors. Moreover, the ceiling of the county clerk's vault is cracked. However, this vault is equipped with steel filing material. The circuit clerk's vault is fitted only with wooden shelving on which the books stand on end, and wooden pigeonholes in which the files are kept. Many of the tax records, etc. are in a storeroom outside the vaults.

County Clerk

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' AND SUPERVISORS' RECORDS

"Order Book A. 1813–1820," 1 v.

This volume contains a record of the court of common pleas; of granting ferry and tavern licenses, with rates, etc.; of allowance of claims against county, etc.; and of probate records, inventories, appraisements, and sale bills, etc.; 8 x 14 inches, leather bound, 367 p.

County Commissioners' Order Book, March, 1840–February, 1847; 1 v., labeled "Order Book."

This is a record of orders of commissioners, lists of jurors, appointment of road supervisors, road surveys and notes, etc.

County Court Record, 1860–1876, 2 v. (A–B)

County Commissioners' Record, 1876–1891, 3 v. (C–E)

These volumes were in a recent flood and are warped, but otherwise not greatly damaged.

Supervisors' Record, 1891–date, 3 v. (1–3)

County Commissioners' Papers, 1869–1890.

The contents include petitions for roads, licenses, reports of road viewers, etc.

Miscellaneous County Commissioners' Papers, 1856–1886.

These are on top of filingboxes in the storeroom, tied in bundles.

Supervisors' Proceedings, 1890–date, 5 f.b. (112, 137, 154, 155, 159)

[1] Examined April, 1912.

Register of Railroad Bonds, 1870-1900, 1 v. (1)

The record contains date, number and amount of bond; when due, rate of interest, and to what road subscription was made.

Record of Indentured Negroes, 1814–1837, 1 v. (B)

The volume contains Negro indentures; certificates of freedom; register of Negro children born of free parents, etc. There is also the transcript of a record from the parish court of New Orleans of the case of Venus Davenport *vs.* S. D. Dixon. Venus, who was claimed as a slave by Dixon, was declared free by the court, partly on the ground that she was living in Illinois when the constitution of 1818 was adopted and had not been indentured. The volume is indexed, measures 8 x 13 inches, and has a cardboard back.

"Free Negro Book C., 1839–1849," 1 v.

This is an eight by thirteen inch volume with cardboard back, containing a record of Negro freedom papers, e.g., copies of wills or manumissions, certificates of free birth, etc.

Record of Free Negroes, 1846–1856, 1 v. (1)

This is a record of evidences of manumission or free birth, etc.

Jury List, 1872–date, 1 v. (A)

COUNTY COURT RECORDS

County Court Record (common law and criminal), 1872–date, 3 v. (1–3)

County Court Files (common law and criminal), 1872–date, 53 f.b.

Index to Court Files and Miscellaneous Papers, 1 v.

Drainage Record: Ridgeway District, 1907–date, 1 v.; Cypress District, 1902–date, 1 v.

Judges' Docket (common law and criminal), 1872–date, 4 v.

Judgment Docket, 1872–date, 2 v. (A–B)

Execution Docket, 1872–date, 1 v. (A)

Fee Book (common law and criminal), 1872–date, 7 v. (1–7)

TAXATION RECORDS

List of Taxable Lots in Equality, New Haven, and Shawneetown, c. 1850.

Exact date is unascertainable.

"Tax Book, 1845," 1 v.; 1846, 1 v. in storeroom.

This is a list of lands and personal property in the county, with value and names of owners.

Assessors' Books, 1850–date, in storeroom and Collectors' Books, 1850–date, in storeroom.

Board of Review Record, 1899–date, 1 v. (1)

Board of Review Complaint Docket, 1899–date, 1 v. (1)

Tax Judgment Record, 1850–1860, 1 v.

This is on top of filingboxes tied up with several other books.

List of Lands Sold for Taxes, 1836–1843, 1 v.; 1850–1860, 1 v.

The above was found tied up together together with several other books on top of filingboxes.

Tax Judgment, Sale, Redemption, and Forfeiture Record, 1880–date, 6 v.

Record of Affidavits for Tax Deeds, 1878–date, 3 v. (A–C)

Affidavits for Tax Deeds, 1853–date, 7 f.b. (113–118), in vault.

RECORDS OF VITAL STATISTICS

Marriage Record, January, 1830–September, 1846, 1 v. (1)

One-half of the first page is torn off.

Record of Marriages, January, 1846–May, 1859, 1 v.

The record contains certificates of marriage with names of parties and dates of marriage.

Marriage Record, May, 1859–date, 9 v. (A–I)

These volumes contain records of licenses issued and certificates of marriages giving names and dates. Beginning with 1882 (v. D), the ages of parties are given also.

Register of Marriages, March, 1878–date, 3 v. (1–3); Index, 2 v.

Board of health form.

Record of Applications for Marriage License, 1899–date, 9 v. (1–9)

Marriage Licenses, 1870–1899, in boxes in 2d floor storeroom; 1899–date, 4 f.b., in vault.

Register of Births, 1878–date, 4 v. (1–4); Index.

Register of Still Births, 1878–date, 1 v.

Register of Deaths, 1878–date, 3 v. (1–3); Index, 1 v.

Birth Reports, 1903–date, 2 f.b.

Death Reports, 1903–date, 2 f.b.

Birth and Death Reports, 1878–1903, in storeroom.

Coroners' Record, 1874–1898, 1 v.

This volume was badly damaged by water during flood of 1898.

Census, 1840, 1 v.

Compendium, Sixth Census, 1840, 2 copies.

Census Schedule, Gallatin County, 1830, 1 folio.

Names of heads of families, number and ages of females and males in family, number of free Negroes and mulattoes, number of slaves, number of mills, stores, etc., are given. The folio measures 8 x 13 inches, and is bound in cloth.

Abstract of Census, 1830, Gallatin County, Illinois.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Poll Book and Abstract of Votes, 1870.

Abstract of Votes, 1888, 1 v.; 1906, 1 v.

Record of Officers Elected, 1839–1869, 2 v.; 1890–date, 1 v.

The contents include the names of justices, constables, sheriffs, clerks, etc., giving date of election and expiration of term.

Justices' and Constables' Bond Record, 1905–date, 1 v. (1)

Assessors' Bond Record, 1899–date, 1 v. (1)

Stock Mark Book (record of marks and brands), 1835–1906, 1 v.

Estray Record, 1837–1867, 1 v.

The record measures 8 x 13 inches and has a cardboard back.

Swamp Lands in Gallatin County, First Report, c. 1850, 1 v.

This is on top of filingboxes tied up with several other books.

School Commissioners' Record, 1845–1876, 1 v.

Contents: reports of sale of lands, and of school money loaned.

County Clerk—Probate

PROBATE COURT RECORDS

Probate Order Book, December, 1849–July, 1856, 1 v., labeled "Order Book."

Contents: orders and records of probate court, petitions for letters, settlements of administrators, etc.

Probate Order Book, August, 1856–June, 1860, 1 v.

The contents include orders appointing administrators and guardians, orders allowing claims, and accepting reports, etc.

Probate Journal, 1860–date, 16 v. (A–P)

Probate Files, 1830–date, 74 f.b.

Index to Estate and Guardianship Papers, 1 v.

DOCKETS AND FEE BOOKS

Probate Judges' Docket, 1853–1859, 1 v.; 1861–1863, 1 v.; 1880–1887, 2 v.; 1893–date, 9 v.

Names of parties, kind of action, and order of court are listed.

Probate Fee Book, 1860–date, 5 v. (A–E)

RECORDS OF WILLS, BONDS, AND LETTERS

Probate Record, December, 1849–November, 1859, 1 v., labeled "Records, Wills, A."

The volume contains wills, bonds, letters of administrators, executors, and guardians.

Record of Wills, 1814–1846, 1 v.; 1859–date, 2 v. (B–C)

The first volume has 156 p., 8 x 13 inches.

Administrators' Record, 1859–date, 6 v. (A–F)

Record of Administrators' and Guardians' Bonds and Letters, 1854–1860, 1 v.

Executors' Record, 1861–date, 1 v. (A)

Guardians' Record, 1872–date, 3 v. (C–E)

Record of Administrators, de bonis non, etc., 1883–date, 1 v. (1)

INVENTORIES, APPRAISEMENTS, SALE BILLS, ETC.

Inventory Record, 1862–date, 4 v. (A–D)

Guardians' Inventory Record, 1874–date, 2 v. (A–B)

Appraisement Record, 1859–date, 6 v. (A–F)

Sale Record, 1859–date, 3 v. (A–C)

Volumes A–B, 1859–1897, are warped.

Estate Ledger, 1864–date, 5 v. (A–E)

Guardians' Report Record, 1889–date, 3 v. (1–3)

Administrators' Report Record, 1886–date, 2 v. (1–2)

Widows' Relinquishment and Selection Record, 1905–date, 2 v. (A–B)

Clerk of the Circuit Court

CIRCUIT COURT RECORDS

"Order Book, 1813," July, 1813–August, 1818, 1 v.

The volume contains records of the court of common pleas and its successors—common law, chancery, and criminal records.

Order Book, Court of Common Pleas, June, 1813–July, 1818, 118 p.

Pages 119 to 230 of this volume contain records of long chancery suits dating between 1827 and 1839. Many of them have the state bank of Illinois (Bank of Illinois?) as plaintiff.

Circuit Court Order Book, May, 1819–date, 38 v. (A–Z, 1–12)

Common law, chancery, and criminal records were kept together until 1899. Beginning with 1899 the chancery records were kept in a separate series (3 v. to date).

Circuit Court Files, 1813–date, 622 p.h.

These include common law, chancery, and criminal cases, executions and judgments, and justices' transcripts. They are tied in bundles and filed in pigeonholes and labeled by years. Chancery and common law are kept separate.

Index to Court Records, 1858–date, 3 v. each for plaintiff and defendant.

Naturalization Record, 1859–1893, 3 v.

DOCKETS, FEE BOOKS, ETC.

Judges' Docket, 1847–date, 20 v. (D–W)

Other dockets, some as early as 1825, are piled on top of shelves.

Judgment Docket, 1846–date, 6 v. (A–F)

Execution Docket, 1814–date, 4 v. (A–D)

Docket of Mechanics' Liens, 1887–date, 1 v. (1)

Fee Book, c. 1837–date, 29 v. (E–Z, 1–7)

Justice of the Peace Transcript Record, 1848–date, 4 v. (A–D)

Circuit Clerk—Recorder

DEED AND MORTGAGE RECORDS

Original Land Entry Book, c. 1814–1856, 1 v.

Deed Record, 1813–date, 69 v. (A–Z, 1–43)

Mortgage Record, 1860–date, 26 v. (A–Z)

Plat Record, 1906–date, 1 v. (1)

Masters' Foreclosure and Deed Record, 1886–1905, 1 v. (1)

The volume records decree of court on bill to foreclose mortgage, masters' sale, and deed to land.

General Index, 1813–date, 7 v. each for grantor and grantee.

Index to Marginal Releases and Assignments, 1905–date, 1 v. (1)

Chattel Mortgage Record, 1867–date, 25 v. (1–25)

Index in each volume.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Record of Certificates of Levy and Sale, 1860–date, 1 v. (A)

Masters' Certificate Record, 1877–date, 1 v. (B)

Miscellaneous Record, 1903–date, 1 v. (1)

Surveyors' Record, 1854–1871, 1 v.; 1886–date, 1 v. (1)

Field Notes, United States Surveys, c. 1875, 1 v., in county clerk's vault.

The notes contain descriptions of corners of sections and quarter sections, plats of townships, field notes of surveys, etc.

Treasurers' and Collectors' Bond Record, 1893–date, 1 v. (1)

Stallion Register, 1910–date, 1 v.; Renewals, 1911–date, 1 v.

GREENE COUNTY[1]

The county was formed from Madison in 1821; the county seat is Carrollton. The courthouse is located in a public square, and both it and the offices are fireproof. In the county clerk's office the book records are on wooden roller shelves, and the probate files in pasteboard boxes; the law and criminal files are in steel filingboxes. In the circuit clerk's vault the land records are on steel roller shelves. The court records, etc. are on wooden roller shelves, and the papers are in steel filingboxes. All the records of both offices are in vaults.

County Clerk

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' AND SUPERVISORS' RECORDS

County Commissioners' Record, 1821–1849, 4 v. (A–D)

In the back of v. B is a list of lands sold for taxes in 1833.

County Court Record, 1849–1873, 2 v. (E–F)

County Commissioners' Record, 1873–1888, 2 v. (A–B)

Supervisors' Record, 1888–date, 4 v. (C–F)

Record of Roads, 1873–1874, 1 v.

The volume is a record of plats and surveys.

Record of Township Organization, 1884.

This is the report of commissioners appointed to divide the county into townships, 1884.

Commissioners' and Supervisors' Papers, 1856–date, 48 f.b.

Claims, reports, proceedings, miscellaneous papers, petitions, etc. are filed.

Miscellaneous Road Papers, 1821–c. 1875.

The papers are kept in cupboard in clerk's office.

Jury List, 1872–date, 2 v. (1–2)

COUNTY COURT RECORDS

County Court Record (common law and criminal), 1872–date, 2 v. (1–2)

[1] Examined June, 1912.

County Court Files, 1872–date: Criminal, 14 f.b.; Common Law, 20 f.b.

The above files are indexed by plaintiff and defendant.

Insane and Conservators' Record, 1871–1893, 2 v. (A–B)

Insanity Record, 1893–date, 1 v.

Insanity Files, 1872–date, 5 f.b.

Naturalization Record, Discharged Soldiers, 1865 *et seq.*, 1 v.

Pages 40–568 are blank.

Naturalization Record: Declaration of Intention, 1860–1898, 2 v. (A–B); Final Certificate, 1860–1874, 1894–1906, 3 v. (1–3)

Naturalization Papers, 1864–1892, 2 f.b.

County Court Docket (common law and criminal), 1872–date, 7 v.

Judgment Docket, 1872–date, 1 v. (1)

Execution Docket, 1872–date, 1 v. (1)

Judges' Insanity Docket, 1893–date, 1 v.

County Court Fee Book: Criminal, 1872–date, 4 v.; Common Law, 1872–date, 2 v. (A–B); Insanity, 1889–date, 2 v. (B–C)

TAXATION RECORDS

Abstracts of Assessment, 1854–date, 1 f.b. (129)

Abstracts of Assessment of Taxes, 1900–date, 2 v.

Abstracts of Collectors' Books (statement of assessment), 1887–date, 3 v. (1–3)

Land Entry Book, 1821–1871, 1 v.

School Plat Record, 1863–1865, 1 v.

Transcript Book, 1821–1856, 1 v.

The volume contains transcripts of lands entered in the county, copied from auditors' books for use of assessors.

Railroad and Telegraph Tax Schedules, 1873–date, 10 f.b.

Assessors' Books, 1833, 1843, 1845, 1847, 1848–date.

Collectors' Books, 1848–date.

Railroad Tax Book, 1873–1883, 1 v.

Telegraph Tax Book, 1902–date, 2 v.

Board of Review Record, 1899–date, 1 v.

Board of Review Complaint Docket, 1899–date, 1 v. (1)

Tax Judgment Record, 1850–1856, 1 v. (A)

Tax Sale Record, 1833–1866, 1 v. (B); 1867–1879, 1 v. (B)
Tax Judgment, Sale, Redemption, and Forfeiture Record, 1880–1894, 1 v.
Record of Affidavits for Tax Deeds, 1886–1910, 1 v. (1)

RECORDS OF VITAL STATISTICS

Marriage Register, 1821–1891, 3 v. (1, E–F)
The contents give names of parties, date of marriage and by whom. Volume 1 is a copy of records A, B, C, D (1821–1866). The originals are also in the vault.

Register of Marriages, 1877–date, 3 v. (1–3)
Board of health record.

Index to Marriages, 1821–date, 3 v. each for male and female.
Marriage Licenses, 1821–date.
The licenses are tied in bundles and stored in cupboard in clerk's office.

Register of Births, 1877–date, 4 v. (1–4)
Register of Deaths, 1877–date, 3 v. (1–3)
Birth Reports, 1877–date, 9 f.b.
Death Reports, 1877–date, 3 f.b.
Index to Births and Deaths, 1877–date, 1 v.
Record of Physicians' Certificates, 1877–date, 3 v. (1–3)
Register of Physicians and Accoucheurs, 1877–date, 1 v.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Election Returns, Tally Sheets, Poll Books, 1821–1886.
These are in a cupboard in clerk's office.

Assessors' Bond Record, 1899–date, 1 v. (1)
Justices' and Constables' Record, 1884–date, 1 v.
A record of oaths and bonds of above officers.

Register of Commissions, 1857–date, 2 v.
Militia Roll Record, 1861–1862, 1 v.
Soldiers' Discharge Record, 1865, 1 v.
Record of Surveyors' Reports of Inspection of Railroad Crossings, November, 1873–July, 1874, 1 v.
The reports give location of crossing, alterations, repairs, etc.

Miscellaneous Record, 1882–date, 1 v. (1)

Register of Receipts and Expenditures of County Clerk, 1874–date, 3 v. (1–3)

County Clerk—Probate

PROBATE COURT RECORDS

Probate Record, 1821–1836, 2 v. (1–2)

The volumes contain: letters of administration; bonds; oaths; sale bills; inventories; apprenticeship papers; indentures; wills; reports and final settlements; claims, etc.

Probate Record, 1834–1852, 1 v. (4)

Pages 1–181 are inventories, appraisements, and sale bills; pp. 182–220 are a record of claims filed against estates; pp. 221–250, a record of estrays.

Probate Record, 1836–1849, 1 v. (5)

The contents include bonds, letters of administration and of guardianship, records of reports and settlements made.

Probate Record, 1838–date, 22 v. (C–X)

Orders, decrees, claims, reports, settlements, etc. are recorded.

Probate Claim Record, 1850–date, 4 v. (B–E)

Name of claimant, date of filing, amount of claim, amount of judgment, etc. are given.

Index to Probate Records, c. 1830–date, 1 v.

Probate Files, 1821–date: Guardians, 50 f.b.; Estates, 521 f.b.

DOCKETS AND FEE BOOKS

Probate Judges' Docket, 1885–date, 11 v. (1–11)

Estate Docket, 1859–1868, 1 v., labeled "Docket A"; 1864–1881, 1 v. (B); 1882–1895, 2 v. (1–2)

Pages 44–296 of the 1859–1868 volume are blank.

Guardians' Estate Docket, 1890–1892, 1 v. (1)

Pages 7–580 are blank.

Probate Judgment Docket, 1860–1885, 1 v. (A)

Probate Claim Docket, 1880–1884, 1 v. (C)

Docket of Official Bonds in Probate, 1882–1886, 1 v. (1)

Probate Fee Book, 1850–date, 9 v. (1–2, A–G)

RECORDS OF WILLS, BONDS, AND LETTERS

Record of Wills, Letters, Bonds, and Settlements, 1836–1845, 1 v., labeled "Wills–A."

Record of Bonds, Wills, Letters Testamentary, and of Administration, 1845–1875, 1 v. (B), labeled "Record of Wills."

Record of Wills, 1867–date, 4 v. (C–F)

Administrators' Record, 1850–date, 7 v. (A–G)
Executors' Record, 1850–date, 5 v. (A–E)
Guardians' Record, 1850–date, 6 v. (A–F)
Conservators' Record, 1890–date, 1 v.
Miscellaneous Bonds and Letters, 1872–date, 2 v. (1–2)

INVENTORIES, APPRAISEMENTS, SALE BILLS, ETC.

Inventories, Appraisements and Sale Bills, 1836–1849, 1 v., labeled "Probate Record 6."
Inventory, Appraisement, and Sale Bill Record, 1860–1864, 1 v. (A)
Inventory Record, 1864–date, 8 v. (B–I)
Guardians' Inventory Record, 1873–date, 1 v. (A)
Appraisement Record, 1864–date, 6 v. (B–G)
Sale Bill Record, 1864–date, 5 v. (B–F)
Copartnership Inventory, and Appraisement Record, 1875–date, 1 v.
Report Record, 1881–date, 7 v. (A–G)
Guardians' Report Record, 1891–date, 2 v. (1–2)
Executors', Administrators', and Guardians' Accounts, 1849–1873, 1 v.
Insolvent Estate Record, 1877–date, 1 v. (1)
Widows' Relinquishment and Selection Record, 1892–date, 1 v. (A)
Record of Proceedings on Petitions to Sell Real Estate, 1850–date, 5 v. (A–E)

The volume contains petitions, decrees, reports of sale, etc. Pages 87–285 of v. A are blank.

Clerk of the Circuit Court

CIRCUIT COURT RECORDS

Circuit Court Record: Common Law, Criminal, and Chancery, 1822–1837, 2 v. (A–B); Common Law and Criminal, 1838–1887, 9 v. (C–K); Common Law, 1887–date, 6 v. (L–Q); Criminal, 1887–date, 4 v. (A–D); Chancery, 1838–date, 29 v. (A–Z, AA–CC)
Circuit Court Files (common law, criminal, and chancery), 1822–date, 275 f.b.
Naturalization Record, 1868–1890, 1 v.

DOCKETS, FEE BOOKS, ETC.

Judges' Docket, 1841–date, 82 v.
Judgment Docket, 1827–date, 5 v. (1–5)
Execution Docket, 1823–date, 5 v. (1–2, A–C)
Docket of Mechanics' Liens, 1888–date, 2 v. (A–B)
Fee Book, 1821–date, 31 v. (A–I, 10–31)
Justice of the Peace Transcript Record, 1885–date, 3 v. (C–E)
Coroners' Inquests, 1839–date.

Files are tied in bundles, labeled and placed in cupboard on south side of vault.

Register of Receipts and Expenditures, 1872–date, 10 v. (A–J)

Circuit Clerk—Recorder

DEED AND MORTGAGE RECORDS

Entry Book, 1822–date, 20 v.
Deed Record, 1822–date, 106 v. (A–Z, AA–ZZ, 51–106)

Volumes A, B, and E have been copied.

Mortgage Record, 1869–date, 32 v. (A–Z, AA–FF)
General Index, 1822–date, 5 v. each for grantor and grantee.
Index to Marginal Releases and Assignments, 1905-date, 1 v. (1)
Chattel Mortgage Record, 1858–date, 36 v. (1–36)
Index to Chattel Mortgages, 1906–date, 1 v. (1)

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Record of Sheriffs' Certificates of Levy and Sale, 1841–1862, 1 v., labeled "Records No. 1."
Record of Sheriffs' Certificates of Levy, Sale, and Redemption, 1869–date, 2 v. (1–2)
Record of Masters' Certificates of Sale and Redemption, 1867–date, 3 v. (A–C)
Surveyors' Record, 1893–date, 1 v. (1)
Town Collectors' Bond Record, 1886–date, 1 v. (1)
Township Treasurers' Bond Record, 1889–date, 1 v. (A)
Stallion Register, 1910–date, 1 v. (1); Renewals, 1911–date, 1 v.

GRUNDY COUNTY[1]

The county was set off from La Salle in 1841; the county seat is Morris. The courthouse is not fireproof, but the vaults appear to be. The vaults are well equipped, being fitted with steel shelves and filingboxes, but are overcrowded. A few such records as collectors' books are kept in a storehouse at the rear of the courthouse.

County Clerk

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' AND SUPERVISORS' RECORDS

County Commissioners' Record, June, 1841–October, 1849, 2 v.

The contents include: records of roads and bridges and petitions therefor; boundaries of roads, appointment of road viewers, and their reports; register of money paid out; lists of jurors; county and road tax levies; records of final settlements with tax collectors, etc.; tavern and other licenses. In the back of v. 2 is a delinquent tax list, 1853 and 1857.

Supervisors' Record, June, 1850–date, 7 v. (A–7)

County Commissioners' Papers: Petitions for Roads and Bridges, 1842; Report of Sale of County Town Lots in Morris, 1845.

No other early papers were found; the above are in box labeled "Miscellaneous."

Supervisors' Papers, 1852–date, 55 f.b.

Financial Record, 1855–1894, 1 v. (A)

The volume contains treasurers' and collectors' reports of accounts to supervisors.

Register of County Orders, 1841–date, 5 v. (A–B, 1–3)

Jury List, 1872–date, 1 v.

COUNTY COURT RECORDS

County Court Record, 1855–date, 5 v. (A–E)

Cognovit Record, 1883–date, 1 v.

Record of Judgment by Default, 1858–1893, 1 v. (A)

Chancery Record, 1855–1864, 1 v. (A)

[1] Examined February, 1912.

Plaintiffs' and Defendants' Index, 1856–date, 2 v. (A–B)

The plaintiffs' and defendants' index is in same volume; plaintiffs in front and defendants in back.

County Court Files, 1855–date, 33 f.b.

Drainage Record, 1896–date, 1 v.

Insanity Record, 1893–date, 2 v. (A–B)

Insane and Conservators' Record, 1874–1892, 1 v. (A)

Naturalization Record, 1855–1906, 14 v.

Naturalization Papers, 1852–1906, 14 f.b.

Court Docket, 1855–date, 4 v. (1–4)

Clerks' Docket, 1855–1858, 1 v.; 1860–date, 3 v.

Judgment Docket, 1855–date, 1 v.

Execution Docket, 1855–date, 1 v.

Executions, 1855–date, 4 f.b.

Insanity Docket, 1893–date, 1 v. (A)

Fee Book, 1855–date, 6 v.

List of Jury Certificates, 1856–date, 1 v.

TAXATION RECORDS

Abstract of Assessment and Taxes, 1871–date, 3 v. (A, 1–2)

Assessment and Statement of Taxes, 1878–date, 1 v.

Docket of Rates and Amounts Wanted, 1902–date, 1 v. (2)

Certificates of Tax Levies, 1852–date, 8 f.b.

School District Plats, 1858–date, 1 v.

Railroad Tax Schedules of Value, 1854–date, 5 f.b.

Assessors' Books, 1842–date, and Collectors' Books, 1842–date.

These and other old records are kept in a brick storehouse in the rear of courthouse.

Telegraph and Telephone Tax Books, 1878–date.

Railroad Tax Books, 1858–date.

Treasurers' Tax Record, 1858–1866, 4 v. (B–E)

The volumes contain lists of delinquent taxes reported to treasurer by collector.

Delinquent Tax Lists, 1842–1898, 2 f.b.

These are lists printed in the *Joliet Courier* and *Grundy County Herald*.

Record of Applications for Judgment, 1862–1880, 3 v. (A–C)

These are applications for judgment for unpaid taxes.

Tax Judgment Record, 1855–1879, 5 v.

Tax Sale Record, 1842–1879, 4 v.

Tax Judgment, Sale, Redemption and Forfeiture Record, 1880–date, 3 v.
Record of Affidavits for Tax Deeds, 1849–date, 2 v. (A–B)
Affidavits for Tax Deeds, 1848–date, 6 f.b.

RECORDS OF VITAL STATISTICS

Marriage Record, 1841–date, 2 v. (1–2)
The volumes record number of license, names of parties, date of license, date of marriage, when recorded, and by whom married. One little volume "Register of Marriages," 1841–1853, has been copied into v. 1.
Index to Marriage Record, 2 v.
Register of Marriages, 1877–date, 3 v. (1–3)
Board of health form.
Marriage Licenses, 1841–date, 12 f.b.
Applications for Marriage License, 1882–date, 4 f.b.
Register of Births, 1877–date, 4 v. (1–4)
There is an index to each volume.
Register of Deaths, 1877–date, 3 v. (1–3)
Birth Reports, 1877–date, 7 f.b.
Death Reports, 1878–date, 3 f.b.
Register of Physicians, Dentists, and Accoucheurs, 1877–date, 1 v.
Record of Physicians' and Dentists' Certificates, 1877–date, 2 v.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Election Returns, Tally Sheets and Abstract of Votes, 1847–1894.
Except for several in the fifties, no poll books were found.
Assessors' and Supervisors' Bond Record, 1899–date, 1 v. (1)
Official Bond Record, December, 1849–November, 1859, 1 v.
Bond Record, 1887–date, 2 v. (1–2)
These contain justices' and constables' bonds.
Official Bonds, 1841–date, 4 f.b.
Register of Town and County Officers, 1859–date, 3 v.
Militia Roll Record, 1861–1862, 1 v. (A)
"Bounty Paid Soldiers, War," 1861–1865, 1 v.
This is a record of money voted by board of supervisors for volunteers, giving name and residence of volunteer, amount of bounty, and date paid. The volume numbers 185 p., and is not indexed. The first 40 p. contain roll of the companies organized, 1861–August, 1862, giving name, rank, age, height, color of hair and eyes, whether married, number of children, etc.

Estray Record, 1854–1895, 2 v. (A–B)
Register of Fees Received, 1892–date, 3 v. (2–4)

County Clerk—Probate

PROBATE COURT RECORDS

Probate Court Record, 1841–date, 24 v.

The first four volumes contain sale bills, inventories, claims against estates, letters of administration, etc., and all other probate records.

Probate Files, 1841–date, 138 f.b.

Estate, guardianship, adoption, insanity, and conservatorship papers are filed together and numbered in one general series, from 1 to 3216.

Index to Probate Files, 1 v.

DOCKETS AND FEE BOOKS

Probate Judges' Docket, 1857–date, 22 v. (1–22)
Probate Estate Docket, 1862–date, 3 v. (A–C)
Probate Judgment Docket, 1854–date, 1 v.

The volume contains legally proved claims against estates named, date of judgment, amount and class.

Probate Claim Order Book, May, 1842–November, 1849, 1 v., unlabeled.

The volume records the orders of court on claims.

Probate Claim Docket, 1883–date, 3 v. (A–C)

This is a docket of claims filed against each estate.

Docket of Official Bonds, 1877–1889, 1 v.
Probate Fee Book, 1855–date, 11 v. (1–11)

RECORDS OF WILLS, BONDS, AND LETTERS

Record of Wills, 1854–date, 3 v. (A–C)

Volume A contains, besides wills, letters testamentary and executors' oaths.

Administrators' Record, 1854–date, 5 v. (A–E)
Executors' Record, 1859–date, 4 v. (A–D)
Conservators' Record, 1905–date, 1 v. (B)
Guardians' Record, 1858–date, 3 v. (A–C)
Miscellaneous Record, 1880–date, 2 v. (C–D)

The volumes contain letters of administration de bonis non and letters of administration with will annexed.

INVENTORIES, APPRAISEMENTS, SALE BILLS, ETC.

Inventory Record, 1863–date, 5 v. (A–E)
Guardians' Inventory Record, 1887–date, 1 v. (C)
Appraisement Record, 1858–date, 4 v. (A–D)
"Request to Dispense with Appraisers," 1909–date, 1 v.
Sale Bill Record, 1867–1876, 1 v. (A); 1872–date, 1 v. (B); 1888–date (private sales), 1 v. (C)
Report Record, 1877–date, 7 v. (A–G)
The record contains reports of administrators, executors, and guardians.
Probate Court Ledger, 1863–1894, 2 v. (A–B)
Widows' Relinquishment and Selection Record, 1871–date, 2 v. (A–B)
Record of Decree for Sale of Real Estate, 1880–date, 5 v. (1–5)
The volumes record petitions to sell real estate to pay debts and decree of court thereon.

Clerk of the Circuit Court

CIRCUIT COURT RECORDS

Circuit Court Record, 1841–date, 29 v.
Index to Court Record (plaintiffs and defendants), 4 v.
Circuit Court Files, 1841–date: Common Law, 66 f.b.; Chancery, 112 f.b.; Criminal, 42 f.b.
Naturalization Record, 1859–date, 6 v.
Naturalization Papers, c. 1845–1885, 4 f.b.

DOCKETS, FEE BOOKS, ETC.

Judgment Docket, 1857–1880, 2 v. (A–B)
Execution Docket, 1858–1880, 2 v. (A–B)
Judgment and Execution Docket, 1881–date, 2 v. (C–D)
Executions, 1843–date, 12 f.b.
Docket of Mechanics' Liens, 1887–date, 1 v.
Justice of the Peace Transcript Record, 1850–date, 2 v. (1–2)
Coroners' Record, 1872–date, 3 v. (1–3)
Coroners' Inquests, 1859–1901, 4 f.b.
States Attorneys' Report Record, 1873–date, 1 v.
Register of Fees, 1884–date, 2 v.
These volumes contain accounts of receipts and expenditures of the circuit clerk.

Circuit Clerk—Recorder

DEED AND MORTGAGE RECORDS

Entry Book, 1842–date, 12 v.
Deed and Mortgage Record, 1841–date, 137 v.
Deed Record, 1832–1841, 3 v.

These volumes are transcribed from La Salle county record. Deeds and mortgages are kept in same series and up to 1853 in same volumes.

Plat Book, 1844–date, 3 v. (A–C)
General Index to Deeds, 6 v. each for grantor and grantee.
Index to Mortgages, 4 v. each for mortgagor and mortgagee.
Tract Index, 1835–date, 2 v. (1–2)
Index to Town Lots, 1835–date, 3 v. (1–3)
Chattel Mortgage Record, 1880–date, 8 v. (15–22)

The older records are stored in vault back of courthouse.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Record of Certificates of Levy, 1857–1904, 1 v. (B)
Certificate of Sale Record, 1859–1897, 2 v. (A and D)
Surveyors' Record, 1885–date, 1 v. (1)
Land Entry Book, 1835–1855, 1 v.
Field Notes of United States Survey of Grundy County, 1 v.
Collectors' Bond Record, 1899–date, 1 v. (B)
Stallion Register, 1910–date, 1 v.; Renewals, 1911–date, 1 v.

HAMILTON COUNTY[1]

The county was formed from White in 1821; the county seat is McLeansboro. Hamilton county in 1911–1912 had no regular courthouse. A brick building in a public square, used for the office of the clerks, was apparently not fireproof. In the offices, books were kept on end and papers were either filed in pasteboard filingboxes in wooden pigeonholes, or else were kept in drawers. The clerks apparently attempted to care for the records as well as such conditions would let them.

County Clerk

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' AND SUPERVISORS' RECORDS

County Commissioners' Record, June, 1840–December, 1849, 1 v.

The volume is labeled "Record Book."

County Court Record, December, 1849–1868, 2 v.

It contains a record of claims allowed against the county, lists of jurors, boundaries of road districts, appointment of road viewers and their reports, and other county business.

Supervisors' Record, 1886–date, 3 v. (B–D)

County Commissioners' Record, 1874–1886, 1 v. (A)

The contents are: assessment and statement of taxes; assessment of railroad property; allowance of claims against county; lists of grand jurors, etc.

Road Record, 1878–1885, 1 v. (A)

A record of field notes, surveys, and plats.

Minute Book, County Commissioners, 1875–date, 5 v. (1–5)

These contain a record of orders and claims allowed, lists of judges of election appointed, lists of grand jurors, etc.

County Commissioners' Court Papers, 1852–1883, 24 f.b., in storeroom; 1883–date, 69 f.b.

Road Papers, 1880–1885, 3 f.b., in storeroom.

These are petitions for roads or alterations, reports of road viewers, etc.

Indentures, 1845–1872, 1 f.b., in storeroom.

Contents: adoption and apprenticeship papers.

[1] Examined April, 1912.

COUNTY COURT RECORDS

County Court Record, 1872–date: Common Law, 1 v.; Criminal, 3 v.

County Court Files, 1872–1882, 44 f.b., in storeroom; 1882–date, 96 f.b.

Drainage Record, 1899–date, 2 v.

The volumes contain a record of proceedings of drainage commissioners, plats of lands, lists of owners, location of drainage ditches, etc.

Insanity Record, 1878–date, 3 v. (1–3)

Insanity Files, 1872–date, 9 f.b.

Naturalization Record, 1880–1894, 1 v. (A)

Judges' Docket, 1872–date, 4 v. (A–D)

Judgment Docket, 1872–date, 2 v. (A–B)

Execution Docket, 1872–date, 1 v.

Judges' Docket, Insanity, 1900–date, 1 v. (1)

Headings are: history of case; name; age; etc.

Fee Book (common law and criminal), 1872–date, 6 v. (A–F)

Register of Jurors, 1872–date, 1 v.

TAXATION RECORDS

Tabular Statement of Taxes, 1886–date, 1 v.

For statement, 1875–1885, see County commissioners' record, A, 1874–1886.

List of Taxable Lands, 1826, 1827, 1831, 1835; Lands and Personal Property, 1845.

These are paper folios. They contain name of original patentee, present owner, amount and description of land, and amount assessed. They are placed in drawer no. 5 with poll books, at northwest corner of office.

Land Entry Book, c. 1817–1855, 1 v.

School District Plat Book, 1893–date, 1 v.

Assessors' Books, 1857–date.

Collectors' Books, 1853–date.

Railroad Tax Books, 1873–date.

Record of Proceedings of Board of Review, 1899–date, 1 v.

Board of Review Complaint Docket, 1899–date, 1 v.

Tax Judgment Record, 1865–1879, 2 v. (B–C)

Tax Sale Record, 1834–1853, 1 v.; 1859–1879, 3 v. (1–3)

Tax Forfeiture Record, 1871–1879, 3 v.

Tax Judgment, Sale, Redemption, and Forfeiture Record, 1880–date, 7 v.

Record of Affidavits for Tax Deeds, 1878–date, 5 v. (3–7)

Affidavits for Tax Deeds, 1857–1877, 4 f.b., in storeroom.

RECORDS OF VITAL STATISTICS

Record of Marriages, May, 1821–1874, 3 v. (A–C); 1874–date, 3 v. (E–G)

Volumes A–E, 1821–1877, give only names of parties, date of license, date of marriage, and by whom certified. Volumes F–G, 1877–date, give ages of parties also.

Register of Marriages, 1878–date, 2 v. (1–2)

Contains board of health form.

Index to Marriages, 1821–1874, 1 v.; 1878–date, 1 v. each for male and female.

Marriage Licenses, 1872–date, 34 f.b.

Earlier licenses are in storeroom.

Register of Births, 1878–date, 3 v. (1–3); Index, 1 v.

Register of Still Births, 1878–date, 1 v. (1)

Register of Deaths, 1878–date, 2 v. (1–2); Index, 1 v.

Birth Reports, 1879–date, 34 f.b.

Death Reports, 1879–date, 5 f.b.

Record of Physicians' Certificates, 1877–date, 1 v.

Register of Physicians and Accoucheurs, 1877–date, 1 v.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Lists of Men in Hamilton County Subject to Military Duty, 1861–1862.

These are in little notebooks in box no. 23 of county commissioners' papers in storeroom.

Census Schedule, 1835.

The census lists names of heads of families, number of free white males and females of different ages, number of Negroes and mulattoes, number of militia; also the number and kind of mills, machines, manufactures and distilleries. This is in drawer no. 5 with old poll books, in the northwest corner of the room.

Federal Census: Schedule, 1850, 1 folio; Schedule, 1860, 2 folios.

These are in drawer no. 15, west end of office.

Poll Books and Abstracts of Votes, 1821–1860.

These are poll books of local, state, and national elections; also of

election of militia officers. They are in drawer no. 5 of old case in northwest corner of room.

Canvass of Votes, 1900–1908, 1 f.b.

Assessors' Bond Record, 1899–date, 1 v. (A)

Record of Official Bonds, 1878–date, 2 v. (1–2)

These contain records of bonds of county officers.

Register of County Officers, 1857–date, 2 v. (A–B)

The headings are name, residence, office, date of election, expiration of term, and remarks.

School Commissioners' Record, 1837–1880, 1 v.

Lists of school lands sold, giving amount and value of land, name of purchaser, etc.; also includes records of school money loaned.

Drainage Commission Record, 1855–1857, 1 v.

Description and location of land, amount sold and value per acre, when and to whom sold, and terms of sale are recorded; probably a swamp land record.

County Clerk—Probate

PROBATE COURT RECORDS

Probate Journal, March, 1855–date, 12 v. (A–L)

The series contains records of court orders, allowance of claims, reports and settlements, petitions to sell real estate to pay debts, etc.

Probate Files, 1823–date, 84 f.b.

The estate papers are filed alphabetically, all with same initial letter being in same box.

DOCKETS AND FEE BOOKS

Probate Judges' Docket, 1873–date, 10 v. (F–O)

Probate Court Docket, 1866–1870, 1 v.

Probate Judgment Docket, 1859–date, 7 v. (A–G)

These give name of claimant and of estate, date, nature of claim and amount, and order of court.

Probate Fee Book, 1866–date, 9 v. (B–J)

RECORDS OF WILLS, BONDS, AND LETTERS

Record of Letters, Bonds, and Wills, April, 1838–December, 1847, 1 v.; December, 1847–November, 1859, 2 v.

The volumes record administrators' and executors' bonds and letters, and copies of wills probated.

Record of Wills, 1826–date, 2 v. (A–B)

Wills, c. 1830–date, 3 f.b.
Administrators' and Executors' Record, 1858–1898, 3 v. (B–D)
Administrators' Record, 1890–date, 3 v. (E–G)
Executors' Record, 1898–date, 1 v. (E)
Guardians' Record, 1865–date, 5 v. (C–G)
Record of Miscellaneous Bonds and Letters, 1877–date, 3 v. (A–C)

Bonds, letters, and oaths of administrators de bonis non, etc. are included.

INVENTORIES, APPRAISEMENTS, AND SALE BILLS

Inventory, Appraisement, and Sale Bill Record, December, 1840–February, 1845, 2 v.; 1855–1876, 3 v. (B–D)
Inventory Record, 1877–date, 6 v. (E–J)
Appraisement Record, 1876–date, 4 v. (E–H)
Sale Bill Record, 1876–date, 3 v. (E–G)

REPORTS, ETC.

Probate Ledger, 1858–date, 3 v. (A–C)

These contain current accounts of administrators, executors, and guardians.

Report Record, 1875–1879, 2 v. (A–B)
Administrators' and Executors' Report Record, 1879–date, 4 v. (C–F)
Guardians' Report Record, 1879–date, 5 v. (C–G)
Widows' Relinquishment and Selection Record, 1879–date, 2 v. (A–B)
Record of Decree and Report on Sale of Real Estate, 1868–date, 5 v. (A–E)

Decree of court on petition to sell real estate to pay debts and report of sale are recorded.

Clerk of the Circuit Court

Circuit Court Records

Circuit Court Record: Common Law, Chancery, and Criminal, 1821–1868, 9 v. (A–I); Common Law, 1869–date, 4 v.; Chancery, 1869–date, 17 v.; Criminal, 1871–date, 4 v.

Index to Court Record, 1858–date, 4 v. each for plaintiff and defendant.

Circuit Court Files (common law, criminal, and chancery), 1823–date, 501 f.b.

Naturalization Record, 1863–1883, 2 v.

DOCKETS, FEE BOOKS, ETC.

Judges' Docket, 1842–date, 16 v. (A–P)

Judgment Docket, 1849–date, 4 v. (A–D)

Execution Docket, 1848–date, 3 v. (A–C)

Docket of Mechanics' Liens, 1887–date, 1 v. (1)

Fee Book, 1852–date, 19 v. (A–S)

States Attorneys' Report Record, 1874–date, 1 v. (A)

Justice of the Peace Transcript Record, 1855–date, 4 v. (A–E)

Circuit Clerk—Recorder

DEED AND MORTGAGE RECORDS

Entry Book, 1851–date, 9 v. (A–I)

Deed Record, 1823–date, 94 v. (A–Z, 27–94)

Mortgage Record, 1856–date, 34 v. (1–34)

Release Record, 1873–date, 3 v. (A–C)

Oil and Gas Lease Record, 1906–date, 1 v. (A)

Index to Marginal Releases and Assignments, 1905–date, 1 v.

An index to releases entered in margin of mortgage record, and to mortgages assigned by one person to another.

General Index to Deeds, c. 1840–date, 7 v. (A–G) each for grantor and grantee.

General Index to Mortgages, 1856–date, 5 v. (A–E) each for mortgagor and mortgagee.

Chattel Mortgage Record, 1875–date, 27 v. (1–27)

Index to Chattel Mortgage Record, 3 v.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Record of Certificates of Levy, Sale, and Redemption, 1856–date, 4 v.

Record of Surveys, 1860–date, 3 v.

Field notes and plats of surveys made by county surveyor are here recorded.

Soldiers' Discharge Record, 1865–1900, 1 v. (A)
Stallion Register, 1910–date, 1 v. (1)
Miscellaneous Record, 1864–date, 3 v. (A–C)

These contain a record of soldiers' discharges, certificates of election of trustees, affidavits, etc.

HANCOCK COUNTY[1]

This county was created in 1825 in territory previously attached to Pike, but was attached to Adams until organized in 1829; the county seat is Carthage. The courthouse is in a square, and is fireproof. The vaults are good and fitted with steel shelves and filingboxes; the records and files are in good order.

County Clerk

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' AND SUPERVISORS' RECORDS

County Commissioners' Court Record, 1830–1849, 6 v.

Supervisors' Records, 1850–date, 9 v. (A–I)

Record of County Roads, 1839–date, 2 v.

This is a record of surveys and reports.

Jury List, 1872–date, 2 v.

COUNTY COURT RECORDS

County Court Record, 1872–date: Common Law, 2 v. (1–2); Criminal, 2 v. (1–2)

Index to Court Record, 2 v. each for plaintiff and defendant.

County Court and Miscellaneous Files, 1872–date, 157 f.b.

Drainage Record, 1892–date, 1 v.

The volume records proceedings of commissioners of Hunt drainage district.

Voluntary Assignment Record, 1878–1900, 3 v. (1–3)

Adoption Record, 1884–date, 2 v. (A–B)

Insane and Conservators' Record, 1870–1892, 1 v. (A)

This contains records of insanity trials and of the bonds and letters of conservators.

Insanity Record, 1893–date, 3 v. (D–F)

Naturalization Record, 1876–1906, 3 v. (A–C)

Judgment Docket, 1872–date, 2 v. (1–2)

Execution Docket, 1867–date, 1 v. (B)

[1] Examined July, 1912.

TAXATION RECORDS

Abstract of Assessment and Taxes, 1877–date, 4 v.
Docket of Rates and Amounts Wanted, 1881–date, 4 v. (A–D)
School Plat Book, 1858–date, 4 v.
Assessors' Books, 1852–date, in treasurer's vault.
Collectors' Books, 1846–date, in county clerk's vault.
Railroad Tax Book, 1868–date, 9 v. (A–I)
Board of Review Record, 1899–date, 3 v. (1–3)
Board of Review Complaint Docket, 1899–date, 2 v. (1–2)
Tax Judgment Record, 1833–1880, 10 v.
Tax Sale and Redemption Record, 1823–1880, 11 v.
Tax Judgment, Sale, Redemption, and Forfeiture Record, 1880–date, 17 v.
Tax Forfeiture Record, 1876–1880, 3 v. (B–D)
Record of Affidavits for Tax Deeds, 1858–date, 4 v. (A–D)
Collectors' and Treasurers' Accounts with County, 1873–date, 2 v.

RECORDS OF VITAL STATISTICS

Marriage Register, 1829–1862, 3 v. (A^1–A^3)
The headings are: number and date of license; names of parties; date of marriage and by whom solemnized; when registered.

Marriage Register, 1863–date, 2 v. (B–C); Index, 2 v.
The contents are the same as those of the preceding register.

Register of Marriages, 1877–1908, 2 v. (1–2)
Board of health form; this register has been discontinued.

Record of Applications for Marriage License, 1880–date, 17 v. (A–P)
Marriage Licenses, 1830–date, 30 f.b.
Register of Births, 1878–date, 7 v. (1–7)
Register of Still Births, 1878–date, 1 v. (1)
Register of Deaths, 1878–date, 5 v. (A–E)
Coroners' Death Certificate Record, 1910–date, 1 v. (1)
Same information as in regular death record is given.

Record of Physicians' Certificates, 1877–date, 2 v. (1–2)
Register of Physicians and Accoucheurs, 1877–date, 1 v. (1)
Record of Dental Certificates, 1878–date, 2 v. (A–B)
Veterinary Surgeons' License Record, 1900–date, 1 v. (1)

Architects' License Record, 1897–date, 1 v. (1)
Census Returns, Hancock County, 1880, 2 v. (1–2)

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Election Record, 1867–date, 2 v. (2–3)
Abstracts of votes cast for national, state, and local officers are given.

Record of Incorporation of Towns, 1849–1869, 1 v.
These include poll books of electors and names of officers chosen.

Assessors' Bond Record, 1899–date, 1 v. (1)
Justices' and Constables' Bond Record, 1879–date, 2 v. (A–B)
Register of County Officers, 1849–date, 3 v. (A–C)
The register includes name of officer, office, date of election, and expiration of term.

Record of Marks and Brands, 1829–1907, 1 v.
Estray Record, 1858–1909, 2 v. (1–2)
Militia Roll Record, 1861–1862, 1 v. (A)
Miscellaneous Record, 1901–date, 1 v. (1)

County Clerk—Probate

PROBATE COURT RECORDS

Probate Record, December, 1839–October, 1846, 1 v. (A)
The contents include orders, decrees, record of reports filed, claims allowed, etc.

Probate Journal, 1840–1846, 1 v.
The volume contains letters of administrators, bonds, oaths, claims, reports, settlements, inventories, appraisements, and sale bills.

Probate Record, 1842–1849, 1 v.
The records include claims, proof of death, petition for letters, etc., orders and decrees.

Probate Order Book, 1850–1859, 2 v.
Probate Journal, 1859–date, 39 v. (1–39)
Orders, decrees, and court minutes of proceedings are recorded.
Probate Files, 1830–date: Estates, 373 f.b.; Guardianship, 80 f.b.

DOCKETS AND FEE BOOKS

Estate Index, 1830–date, 1 v. (1)
The headings are as follows: name of estate, and of agent; date of letters; reference to volume and page of will, bond, appraisement, inventory, report and other records; also number of filingbox in which papers are to be found.

Guardians' Index, 1830–date, 1 v. (1)

The index lists names of guardian and ward, securities, amount of bond, and date of letters; reference to records and to files is also given.

Probate Estate Docket, 1854–1869, 1 v. (A)

Probate Judges' Docket, 1859–date, 21 v. (A–U)

Claim Docket, 1849–date, 8 v. (A–H)

The docket is a list of claims allowed against each estate, giving names, amount and nature of claims.

Probate Judgment Docket, 1859–date, 10 v. (A–J)

Fee Book (probate, criminal, and common law), 1878–1897, 3 v. (F–H)

RECORDS OF WILLS, BONDS, AND LETTERS

Record of Wills and Letters Testamentary, 1836–1849, 2 v. (B–C)

Record of Wills, 1850–1874, 1 v. (1); 1866–date, 10 v. (A–J)

Record of Probate of Wills, 1899–date, 2 v. (A–B)

Record of Order Finding Heirship, 1905–date, 1 v. (A)

The volume contains the orders of the court designating heirs.

"Record of Bonds, Letters of Administrators and Guardians," 1849–1863, 1 v.

"Record of Letters of Administration, Bonds, etc.," 1850–1864, 1 v.

Administrators' Record, 1859–date, 8 v. (A–H)

Executors' Record, 1865–date, 5 v. (A–E)

Record of Conservators' Bonds and Letters, 1880–1908, 1 v. (C); 1902–date, 1 v. (E)

Guardians' Record, 1859–date, 6 v. (A–F)

Record of Miscellaneous Bonds and Letters, 1873–1892, 2 v. (1–2)

Record of Letters of Administration with Will Annexed, 1886–date, 1 v. (B)

Record of Bond for Sale of Real Estate, 1884–date, 1 v. (A)

INVENTORIES, APPRAISEMENTS, AND SALE BILLS

Appraisement, Inventory, and Sale Record, 1831–1839, 1 v. (A)

Inventory, Appraisement, and Sale Bill Record, 1850–date, 11 v. (A–K)

Volumes E–K, 1866–1912, contain only such documents as are too long for printed form of regular record.

Appraisement Record, 1866–date, 8 v. (E–L)
Inventory Record, 1866–date, 10 v. (E–N)
Sale Record, 1866–date, 5 v. (E–I)
Guardians' Inventory Record, 1879–date, 2 v. (A–B)
Conservators' Inventory Record, 1905–date, 1 v. (A)
Partnership Inventory Record, 1884–date, 1 v. (1)
Appraisement Record (partnerships), 1884–date, 1 v. (1)

REPORT RECORDS, ETC.

Accounts Current Record, 1849–date, 17 v. (A–Q)
This record contains both the current and final reports.
Administrators' and Executors' Report Record, 1899–date, 4 v.
Conservators' Report Record, 1905–date, 1 v. (A)
Guardians' Report Record, 1887–1906, 2 v. (J–K)
Widows' Relinquishment and Selection Record, 1880–1910, 2 v. (A–B)
Widows' Award and Selection Record, 1910–date, 1 v. (C)

Clerk of the Circuit Court

CIRCUIT COURT RECORDS

Circuit Court Record: Common Law, Chancery, and Criminal, 1829–1838, 1 v. (A); Common Law and Criminal, 1838–1869, 14 v. (B–O); Chancery, 1838–date, 32 v. (1–32); Common Law, 1869–date, 4 v. (P–S); Criminal, 1869–date, 5 v. (1–5)
Index to Court Record, 1857–date: Common Law, 3 v. each for plaintiff and defendant; Chancery, 1 v. each for plaintiff and defendant; Criminal, 1 v.
Circuit Court Files, 1830–date, 1255 f.b., indexed.
Common law, chancery, and criminal files are in same boxes and numbered consecutively.
Naturalization Record: Declaration of Intention, 1851–1890, 3 v.; Final Certificate, 1852–1873, 4 v.; Soldiers and Minors, 1866–1873, 1 v.

DOCKETS, FEE BOOKS, ETC.

Judges' Docket, 1890–date, 24 v.
Judgment Docket, 1835–date, 18 v. (A–R)
Chancery Judgment Docket, 1853–date, 3 v. (A–C)

Execution Docket, 1830–date, 11 v. (A–K)
Docket of Mechanics' Liens, 1887–date, 1 v. (1)
Fee Book, 1836–date, 31 v. (B–Z, 1–6)
States Attorneys' Report Record, 1883–1906, 1 v. (1)

Circuit Clerk—Recorder

DEED AND MORTGAGE RECORDS

Entry Book, 1839–date, 32 v.
Transcribed Deed Record, 1818–1830, 5 v. (1–5)
Deed Record, 1829–date, 163 v. (A–Z, 27–163)
Mortgage Record, 1840–date, 86 v.
Plat Book, 1836–1849, 1 v.; 1866–date, 2 v.
Release Record, 1874–date, 15 v. (1–15)
General Index, 1830–date, 9 v. each for grantor and grantee.
Chattel Mortgage Record, 1855–date, 33 v. (1–33)

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Record of Certificates of Levy, Sale, and Redemption, 1835–date, 5 v. (1–5)
Record of Certificates of Purchase, 1853–date, 4 v. (A–D)
Land Entry Book, c. 1817–1850, 1 v.
Surveyors' Record, 1838–date, 6 v. (B–D, 1–3)
Surveyors' Record (township surveys), 23 v.
There is 1 v. for each township.
Soldiers' Discharge Record, 1865–date, 1 v.
Township Treasurers' Bond Record, 1890–date, 2 v. (1–2)
Collectors' Bond Record, 1850–date, 5 v. (1–5)
Stallion Register, 1910–date, 3 v. (1–3)
Record of Sale of Swamp Lands, 1856, 1 v.
Record of Sale of School Lands, 1836–1838, 1 v.
"School Record," 1834–1856, 1 v.
This is a record of petitions for sales, and sale of school lands; plats and surveys of the lands are also included.
Miscellaneous Record, 1874–date, 5 v. (1–5)

HARDIN COUNTY[1]

Hardin was set off from Pope in 1839 and received additional territory from Gallatin in 1847; the county seat is Elizabethtown. The courthouse is not in a public square, but there are no buildings nearby. The courthouse is of brick and wood, and is not fireproof. There are no vaults and the offices are heated with coal stoves and lighted by lamps. In one office the floor is carpeted with matting. The book records are kept on end on wooden shelves and the files are in wooden pigeonholes. The former courthouse with all its records was burned in 1884. As usual, the gossip is that the fire was incendiary.

County Clerk

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' AND SUPERVISORS' RECORDS

County Commissioners' Record, 1884–date, 3 v. (1–3)

List of County Orders Issued, 1884–date, 2 v.

Name of payee, amount and purpose of order are given.

Jury List, 1884–date, 1 v.

COUNTY COURT RECORDS

County Court Record, 1884–date, 3 v. (1–3)

County Court Files (common law and criminal), 15 p.h.

No filingboxes are used.

Insanity Record, 1884–date, 1 v. (1)

Judges' Docket (common law and criminal), 1884–date, 3 v. (1-3)

Judgment Docket, 1884–date, 1 v. (1)

Execution Docket, 1884–date, 1 v. (1)

Judges' Docket (insanity), 1884–date, 1 v.

Fee Book (common law and criminal), 1884–date, 3 v.

TAXATION RECORDS

Township School Plat Book, 1884–date, 1 v.

Assessors' Books, 1884–date, and Collectors' Books, 1884–date.

[1] Examined April, 1912.

Tax Judgment, Sale, Redemption, and Forfeiture Record, 1884–date, 2 v.

Record of Tax Sale Certificates of Purchase, 1884–1908, 1 v.

This is a record of certificates issued by county clerk to tax buyers certifying that they purchased lands at public sale and in default of redemption will be entitled to deeds.

Record of Affidavits for Tax Deeds, 1884–date, 2 v. (1–2)

RECORDS OF VITAL STATISTICS, ETC.

Marriage Record, 1884–date, 3 v. (1–3)

Names of parties, ages, date of license, and certificate of marriage are given.

Register of Marriages, 1884–date, 1 v. (1)

The board of health form is used.

Marriage Licenses, 1884–date.

These are filed with birth and death reports of equal date in ten pigeonholes.

Register of Births, 1884–date, 2 v. (1–2); Index, 1 v.

Register of Deaths, 1884–date, 3 v. (1–3); Index, 1 v.

Register of Physicians and Accoucheurs, 1884–date, 1 v.

Record of Physicians' Certificates, 1884–date, 1 v.

Justices' and Constables' Bond Record, 1884–date, 1 v. (1)

Register of County Officers' Commissions, 1884–date, 1 v.

County Clerk—Probate

PROBATE COURT RECORDS

Probate Record, July, 1846–November, 1849, 1 v.

Inventories, appraisements, and sale bills, with bonds and letters of administrators, guardians, etc. are recorded.

Probate Journal, May, 1884–date, 5 v. (1–5)

Probate Files, 1884–date, 19 p.h.

DOCKETS, FEE BOOKS, WILLS, ETC.

Probate Judges' Docket, May, 1884–date, 5 v. (1–5)

Record of Wills, 1884–date, 1 v. (1)

Administrators' Record, 1884–date, 1 v. (1)

Executors' Record, 1884–date, 1 v. (1)

Conservators' Record, 1884–date, 1 v.

Guardians' Record, 1897–date, 1 v. (1)

INVENTORIES, APPRAISEMENTS, AND SALE BILLS

Inventory Record (estates), 1884–date, 1 v. (1)
Guardians' Inventory Record, 1887–date, 1 v. (1)
Appraisement Bill Record, 1884–date, 1 v. (1)
Guardians' Sale Record, 1886–date, 1 v. (1)
Sale Bill Record (estates), 1884–date, 1 v. (1)

REPORT RECORDS, ETC.

Estate Ledger, 1884–date, 1 v. (1)

The contents include: name of estate, names of administrator, widow and heirs; amount of bond, names of sureties, etc.; date and amount of inventory, sale bills, etc., and place of record; also list of claims allowed.

Administrators' Report Record, 1884–date, 1 v. (1)
Guardians' Report Record, 1884–date, 1 v. (1)
Widows' Relinquishment and Selection Record, 1884–date, 1 v.
Real Estate Sale Record, 1884–date, 1 v. (1)

Clerk of the Circuit Court

CIRCUIT COURT RECORDS

Circuit Court Record, 1880–date, 6 v. (F–K)
Index to Court Record (plaintiff and defendant), 1884–date, 2 v.
Circuit Court Files (common law, criminal, and chancery), 1884–date, 53 p.h.

DOCKETS, FEE BOOKS, ETC.

Judges' Docket, 1878–date, 6 v. (E–J)
Judgment Docket, 1884–date, 1 v.
Execution Docket, 1884–date, 1 v.
Docket of Mechanics' Liens, 1887–date, 1 v. (1)
Fee Book, 1884–date, 3 v.
Justice of the Peace Transcript Record, 1884–date, 1 v. (1)
Indictment Record, 1884–date, 3 v. (1–3)
Register of Jurors, 1884–date, 1 v. (1)

Circuit Clerk—Recorder

Entry Book, 1865–date, 2 v.

The volume for 1865–1884 was saved from the fire.

Deed Record, 1877–date, 15 v. (N–O, 1–13)
Volumes N and O were saved from the fire of 1884.

Mortgage Record, 1882–date, 6 v.

General Index, 1877–date, 5 v. each for grantor and grantee.

Chattel Mortgage Record, 1884–date, 5 v.

Record of Sheriffs' Certificates of Purchase and Redemption, 1884–date, 1 v.

Record of Masters' Certificates of Purchase and Redemption, 1884–date, 1 v.

Surveyors' Record, 1867–date, 3 v.

Land Entry Book, 1814–1854, 1 v.

HENDERSON COUNTY[1]

The county was set off from Warren in 1841; the county seat is Oquawka. The courthouse is not fireproof. The vaults, however, which take the form of two one-story wings built out from it, seem moderately safe. All the records are kept in them. The filing equipment in the county clerk's vault is modern. In the circuit clerk's office, wooden racks are used for the books—which are on end—and pasteboard filingboxes for the papers.

County Clerk

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' AND SUPERVISORS' RECORDS

County Commissioners' Record, 1841–date, 7 v.

The current volume is loose leaf. Volume 1851–1864 is missing.

Civil Service Record (rules), 1906–date, 1 v.

Dog License Fund Record, 1881–1889, 1 v.; 1897–1908, 1 v.

The second volume is a record of sheep killed by dogs and amount of damage claimed.

Wolf Scalp Affidavits, 1889–1902, 2 f.b.

Register of County Orders, 1853–date, 8 v. (A–H)

Volume 1869–1882 is missing.

Treasurers' Account of County Orders Paid, 1893–1902, 1 v.

This also contains an account of moneys paid and received, 1890–1900.

County Orders Countersigned by Treasurer, 1907–date, 1 v.

Cancelled County Orders, 1885–date, 2 v.

Scrapbook of Clerks' Receipts for orders given out, 1898–1906, 1 v.

Record of Bond Issue for Warsaw and Rockford railroad, 1857–1873, 1 v.

List of Jury Certificates, 1853–1862, 1 v.

Road District Record, 1895–1904, 2 v.

Proceedings of Commissioners of Highways, 5 v.

Road Record, 1841–1894, 2 v.

One volume contains field notes and one volume plats.

[1] Examined April, 1914.

Road Papers, Surveys, etc., 1841 *et seq.*, 4 f.b.
Register of Jurors, 1872–1908, 1 v.; 1910–date, 1 v.

COUNTY COURT RECORDS

County Court Record, 1872–date, 2 v.; Index, 2 v.
County Court Files, 1872–date, 13 f.b.; Index, 1 v. each for common law and criminal files.
Drainage Record, 1879–1880, 1 v. (1); 1911–date, 2 v.
The contents include petitions, organizations, contracts, orders of court, assessments, engineers' testimony, etc.
Drainage Papers, 4 f.b.
Insane and Conservators' Record, 1878–1891, 1 v. (A)
Insanity Record, 1894–date, 1 v.
Record of Final Certificate of Naturalization, 1872–1902, 1 v.; 1904–1906, 1 v.
Minors' Naturalization Record, 1878–1898, 1 v.; 1904, 1 v.
Naturalization Papers, 1888–date, 4 f.b.
Inheritance Tax Record, 1 v.
This is a description of estate and bequests with appraisement and amount of tax and judge's signature.
Judges' Docket, 1872–1901, 1 v.; 1897–date, 1 v.
Clerks' Docket, 1880–date, 2 v.
Judgment Docket, 1882–date, 1 v.
Execution Docket, 1872–date, 1 v.
Docket of Insane Cases, 1894–date, 1 v.
Fee Book, 1878–date, 3 v., in probate series.
Jury Venires, 1887–date, 2 f.b.

TAXATION RECORDS

Docket of Rates and Amounts Wanted, 1876–date, 1 v.
School Tax Levies, 1879–1900, 5 f.b.
School District Plats, 1874–date, 2 v.
Revenue Papers, 1848–1880, 4 f.b.
These are collectors' credits, forfeited lands, double payments, etc.
Assessors' Books, 1847, 1 v.; 1862, 1 v.; 1899–date.
Collectors' Books, 1841–1843, 1846, 1848–date.
Railroad, Telegraph and Telephone Book, 1873–1881, 1 v.
Railroad Tax Book, 1873–1875, 1 v.; 1889–date, 2 v.
Board of Review Record, 1907–date, 1 v.

Statement of Errors in Tax Books, by county collector to county clerk, requesting credit for amounts, 1891–1907, 1 v.

Personal Property Abatement List, 1891–1902, 1 v.; 1907–date, 1 v.

Collectors' demands for abatement for unpaid taxes on personal property are listed here.

Circuit Court Judgment Record, 1842–1849, 1 v.

Tax Judgment Record, 1849–1866, 2 v.; 1859–1874, 1 v.

Lists of Lands Sold for Taxes, 1833–1852, 1 v.; 1842–1852, 1 v.; 1862–1880, 1 v.

Tax Judgment, Sale, Redemption, and Forfeiture Record, 1881–1895, 1 v.; 1893–date, 2 v.

Record of Affidavits for Tax Deeds, 1841–1853, 1 v.; 1851–1865, 1 v.; 1869–date, 4 v. (A, A, B, D)

Record of Tax Sale Certificates of Purchase, 1889–date, 2 f.b.

Record of Certificates of Purchase where taxes equal or exceed value of land, 1883–1888, 1 v.

"Distribution of Back Tax," 1879–1883, 1 v.

County Collector in Account with Treasurer, 1884–1889, 1 v.

County Treasurer in Account with County, 1891–date, 1 v.

Treasurers' Accounts, 1841–1845, 1 v.

Record of Treasurers' Settlements, 1841–1852, 1 v.

County Collector in Account with County, 1876–date, 1 v.

RECORDS OF VITAL STATISTICS

Marriage Register, 1841–date, 3 v.; Index, 3 v.

Record of Applications for Marriage License, 1876–date, 7 v.

Marriage Licenses, 1874–date, 5 f.b.

Register of Births, 1877–date, 4 v.; Index, 1 v.

Register of Deaths, 1878–date, 3 v.

Birth Reports, 6 f.b.

Death Reports, 1871–date, 7 f.b.

Record of Certificates of Registered Nurses, 1910, 1 v.

Report of Physicians' Certificates, 1877–1910, 1 v.

Register of Physicians and Accoucheurs, 1877–date, 1 v.

Census Returns, Federal Census of 1860, 1 v.; 1870, 1 v.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Patent Register, 1872, 1 v., 1 entry.

Record of Official Bonds, Justices of the Peace and Constable, 1877–1905; Miscellaneous to 1912; Justice of the Peace, Police Magistrate and Constable, 1907–date, 1 v.
Assessors' Bond Record, 1908–date, 1 v.
Register of Officers, 1857–1882, 1 v.; 1881–1900, 1 v.
Militia Roll Record, 1861, 1 v.
Fee Officers' Reports, c. 1890.
Reports of circuit clerk, sheriff, county clerk, justice of the peace, and school superintendent.
Current Ledger and Cash Book, 1906–date, 2 v.
States Attorneys' Reports to County Court, 1873–date, 1 v.
County Clerk in Account with Physicians for Births and Deaths, 1902, 1 v.
County Clerks' Register of Fees, 1899–date, 1 v.
Sheriffs' Register of Fees, 1873–1910, 1 v.
Miscellaneous Record, 1896–date, 4 v.
Current volume is loose leaf.
Justice of the Peace Docket, 1838–1846, 1 v.; 1903, 1 v.

County Clerk—Probate

PROBATE COURT RECORDS

Probate Court Record, 1843–1863, 4 v.; 1847–1852, 1 v.; 1850–1853, 1 v.; 1864-date, 10 v. (G–P)
Record of Claims against Estates, 1850–1853, 1 v.
Probate Judgment Record, 1887–date, 3 v.
Record of Order of Discharge in Probate, 1906–date, 1 v.
Proof of Publication and Notice of Adjustment Record, 1904–date, 1 v.
Probate Files, 1841–date, 84 f.b.; Index, 1 v.
There are also 16 f.b. in which current papers are arranged by letter.

DOCKETS AND FEE BOOKS

Probate Docket, 1857–1890, 1 v.; 1883–1887, 1 v.; 1887–1890, 1 v.; 1898–1899, 1 v.
Probate Judges' Docket, 1869–1883, 1 v.; 1891–1898, 3 v.; 1900-date, 6 v.
Current volumes are loose leaf.

Probate Claim Docket, 1850–1853, 1 v.; 1887–date, 2 v. (1–2)
This is a record of claims against estates.

Probate Judgment Docket, 1850–1887, 2 v.

Probate Estate Docket, 1890–date, 1 v.

Abstract of Judgments against Estates, 1859–date, 2 v.
This is a claim ledger.

Abstract of Probate Record, 1 v. (A)
This contains name of deceased or ward, executor, etc., reference to probate record, report record, will record, records of bonds and letters, of inventories appraisements and sale bills, of widows' relinquishment and selection, and to fee book. It is a kind of estate docket covering Probate court record, O–P.

Probate Fee Book, 1853–1869, 1 v.; 1861–1873, 2 v.
These are continued in v. D–L, a series of assorted printed forms, insane, juvenile, special assessment, and probate, all wasteful.

RECORDS OF WILLS, BONDS, AND LETTERS

Record of Wills, 1851–date, 4 v. (A–D)

Record of Wills and Letters, etc., 1841–1844, 1 v.

Record of Proof of Heirship, 1910–date, 1 v.

Record of Affidavits of Notice for Creditors to Appear, 1870–1902, 1 v.

Administrators' Bond Record, 1859–1899, 2 v.; 1899–date, 1 v.

Executors' Record, 1862–1879, 1899–date, 2 v.

Guardians' Bond and Letter Record, 1859–date, 4 v.

Miscellaneous Bond Record, 1878–1895, 1 v.; 1908–date, 1 v.

INVENTORIES, APPRAISEMENTS, SALE BILLS, ETC.

Inventory, Appraisement, and Sale Record, 1849–1869, 1 v.; 1861–1872, 1 v. (A)

Inventory Record, 1872–1887, 1 v.; 1882–date, 4 v.

Guardians' Inventory Record, 1875–date, 2 v.

Appraisement Record, 1875, 1 v. (B); 1872–date, 4 v.

Personal Property Sale Record, 1872–date, 4 v.

Estate Ledger, 1845–1861, 3 v.; 1906–1908, 1 v.

Record of Accounts Current, 1862–1903, 5 v.; Guardians, 1891–date, 1 v.

Executors' and Administrators' Report Record, 1903–date, 1 v.

Guardians' Report Record, 1907–date, 2 v.

Final Report Ledger, 1905–date, 1 v. (3)
Administrators', Guardians' and Executors' Final Report Record, 1903–1906, 1 v.
Widows' Selection Record, 1891–date, 3 v. (A–C)
Record of Sale of Real Estate, 1906–date, 1 v.
The volume is loose leaf.

Clerk of the Circuit Court

CIRCUIT COURT RECORDS

Circuit Court Record (common law and criminal), 1841–date, 11 v. (2–12)
Record of Defaults, 1859–1872, 1 v.
Chancery Record, 1841–date, 14 v. (1–14)
Index to Court Records, 1856–date, 1 v. each for plaintiff and defendant.
Circuit Court Files, 1841–date: Chancery, 130 f.b.; Criminal, 44 f.b.; Common Law, 135 f.b.
Index to Circuit Court Files, 3 v.
Naturalization Record: Declaration of Intention, 1857–1902, 2 v.; Final Certificate, 1857–1903, 2 v.; Soldiers and Minors, 1866–1903, 1 v.
Naturalization Papers, 1852 *et seq.*, 3 f.b.

DOCKETS AND FEE BOOKS

Judges' Docket, 1841–1844, 1 v.; 1841–1847, 1 v.; 1852–1857, 1 v.; 1857–1910, 9 v. (3–11); current loose-leaf docket, 1 v. each for common law, chancery, and criminal.
Clerks' Docket, 1881–date, 4 v.
General Docket, 1841–1857, 1 v.
Judgment Docket, 1847–date, 5 v. (1–5)
Execution Docket, 1841–date, 4 v.
Executions, 1841–date, 24 f.b.
Docket of Mechanics' Liens, 1888–date, 1 v.
Naturalization Docket, 1870–1872, 1 v.
Fee Book, 1841–1854, 2 v.; 1854–date, 10 v. (3–12)

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Justice of the Peace Transcript Record, 1849–date, 2 v.

Justice of the Peace Files, 1841–date, 2 f.b.
Register of Jurors, 1860–1909, 2 v.
Jury Venires, 1848–date, 3 f.b.
States Attorneys' Reports, 1890–date, 1 f.b.
Recent Coroners' Inquests, 2 f.b.; Old Official Bonds, 1 f.b.
Witness Affidavits, recent dates, 1 f.b.
Clerks' Cash Account, 1867–1868, 1 v.
Register of Receipts and Expenditures, 1873–date, 4 v.
Clerks' Receipts for Fees, 1877–date, 5 v. (A–E)
The receipts are pasted in scrapbooks.

Circuit Clerk—Recorder

DEED AND MORTGAGE RECORDS

Entry Book, 1841–date, 12 v. (1–12)
Copied Record of Schuyler County, Entry Book, and Record v. A–F.
Deed Record, 1841–date, 60 v.
Mortgage Record, 1857–date, 21 v.
Plat Record, 1836–date, 3 v.
This includes one volume of railroad plats.
Index, 1841–date, 12 v. each for grantor and grantee.
Tract Index, 12 v.
Tract Index to Tax Sales, 1823–date, 2 v.
Chattel Mortgage Entry Book, 1859–date, 3 v.
Chattel Mortgage Record, 1859–date, 19 v.
The current record is loose leaf.

CERTIFICATES OF LEVY, SALE, AND REDEMPTION

Record of Sheriffs' Certificates of Levy, 1861–date; Masters' Certificates of Levy, 1860–1890; Sheriffs' Certificates of Redemption, 1861–1898; all these are in 1 v.
Record of Sheriffs' Certificates of Redemption, 1841–1846, folio; 1850–1907, 1 v.
Record of Masters' Certificates of Sale, 1891–date, 1 v.
Certificates of Levy, Sale, and Redemption, 1841–date, 7 f.b.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Record of United States Surveys, 1870, 1 v.
Surveyors' Record, 1876–date, 2 v.

Abstract Notes of Conveyances affecting Henderson County from records of Madison, Schuyler, Pike, and Warren, 1 v. each.

Index to above, 2 v.

Take Off Book (abstracts of deeds from other counties relating to Henderson county), 10 v. (1–10)

Letter Press Abstracts, 1890–1900, 6 v.

Swamp Land Record, c. 1850 *et seq.*, 1 v.

Transcript of Auditors' Tax Sale Record, 1823–1834, 1 v.

Auditors' List of Taxable Lands in Henderson County to 1853, 1 v.

Record of Certificates of Election, Odd Fellows' Trustees, 1865–date, 1 v.

There are 3 certificates to a page.

Soldiers' Discharge Record, 1865–date, 1 v.

Entries of Conveyances, 1872–1873, 1 v. each for lands and lots.

Town Treasurers' Bond Record, 1890–date, 1 v.

Town Collectors' Bond Record, 1907–date, 1 v.

Memorandum Book of Grand Jury, 1896–1900, 1 v.

HENRY COUNTY[1]

Henry county was established by act of 1825 in territory belonging to Fulton; but it remained attached to Fulton or Knox till 1837. The county seat is Cambridge. The courthouse is situated in a public square. It is solidly built in general but there are several weak points in it—notably the decorated ceiling recently installed in the courtroom. The great bulk of the records are in the offices in steel filing cases. A few of the circuit clerk's records are in the basement storeroom on wooden shelves. The county clerk has a storeroom in the attic in which a few of the older records are carefully arranged on wooden shelving. Barring the danger from fire, the records in the county are in excellent condition.

County Clerk

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' AND SUPERVISORS' RECORDS

County Commissioners' and Supervisors' Records, 1837–1877, 5 v.; 1877–date, 6 v.

Miscellaneous Supervisors' Record, 1857–1861, 1 v.

Supervisors' Files, 1857–date, 98 f.b.

Register of County Orders, 1850–1861, 3 v.; 1874–1891, 1 v.; 1911–date, 1 v.

COUNTY COURT RECORDS

County Court Record, 1872–date, 3 v. (1–3)

County Court Files, 1872–date, 28 f.b.

Special Assessment Record, 1894–date, 3 v. (1–3)

Drainage Record, 1880–date, 2 v.

Drainage Tax Book, 1881–1902, 1 v.

Assignment Record, 1878–1904, 3 v. (1–3)

Insane and Conservators' Record, 1870–date, 2 v. (A–B)

Insanity Files, 1854–date, 8 f.b.

Naturalization Record: Declaration of Intention, 1872–1903, 1 v.; Final Certificate, 1872–1906, 3 v.; Soldiers and Minors, 1876–1896, 1 v.

[1] Examined July–August, 1912; reëxamined, April, 1914.

County Court Fee Book, 1872–date, 3 v.
Judges' Docket, 1872–date, 2 v. (A–B)
Bar Docket, 1873–1878, 1 v.
Judgment Docket, 1873, 1 v.

TAXATION RECORDS

Statement of Assessment of Taxes, 1871–date, 7 v.
School Plats, 1911, 1 v.
Certificates of Tax Levy, 1857–1890, 30 f.b., in attic.
Railroad Tax Lists, 1876–1885, 2 v.
Assessors' Books, 1852–date, in attic.
Collectors' Books, 1849–date, in attic.
Railroad Record, 1871–1875, 1 v.
Telegraph Tax Book, 1878–1897, 2 v.
Delinquent Tax Lists, 1848, 1 folio; 1858–1883, 65 v.
Tax Judgment Record, 1849–1857, 1 v.; 1859–1861, 1 v.; 1872–1876, 1 v.; 1870–1877, 14 v.
Tax Sale Record, 1837–1848, 1 v.; 1838–1845, 1 v.; 1842–1845, 1 v.; 1845–1853, 1 v.; 1854–1862, 3 v.; 1862–1880, 5 v.
Tax Judgment, Sale, Redemption, and Forfeiture Record, 1881–date, 12 v.; Tract Index to, 3 v.
Transcript of Tax Sales Record from Auditor's Office, 1828–1833, 1 v.
This was made in 1850.
Record of Affidavits for Tax Deeds, 1872–date, 3 v.
County Clerk in Account with County Treasurer, 1884–date, 1 v.
County Treasurer and Collector in Account with County, 1882–1891, 1 v.

RECORDS OF VITAL STATISTICS

Register of Marriages, 1837–date, 6 v.; Index, 2 v. each for male and female.
Record of Applications for Marriage License, 1868–date, 20 v.
Applications for Marriage License, 1867–date, 14 f.b.
Marriage Licenses, 1837–date, 42 f.b.
Register of Births, 1878–date, 7 v.; Index, 1 v.
Register of Still Births, 1878–date, 1 v.
Register of Deaths, 1877–date, 6 v.; Index, 1 v.

Birth Reports, 1877–date, 14 f.b.
Death Reports, 1877–date, 6 f.b.
Record of Coroners' Death Certificates, 1910–date, 1 v.
Record of Physicians, 1877–date, 2 v.
Register of Physicians and Accoucheurs, 1877–date, 1 v.
Census Reports, 1870, 2 v.; 1880, 2 v.
Abstracts of Agricultural Statistics, 1877–1881, 1 v.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Record of Special Elections on the levy of bounty tax, 1865, 1 v.
Patent Record, 1869–1871, 1 v.
Assessors' Bond Record, 1899–date, 1 v.
Justices' of the Peace and Constables' Bond Record, 1869–date, 2 v.
Register of Supervisors, 1857–date, 1 v.
Register of County Officials, 1865–1873, 1 v.
Estray Record, 1838–1861, 2 v.
Militia Roll Record, 1861–1863, 1 v.
Military Record, 1861–1865, 1 v.
Coroners' Record, 1870–1910, 1 v.
County Ledger, 1871–1882, 2 v.
Cash Books, 1890–1907, 2 v.; 1907–date, 1 v.
Register of Receipts and Expenditures, 1874–1907, 4 v.
Register of Probate Earnings, 1874–1900, 2 v.
Clerk's Accounts with Physicians for Births and Deaths, 1902–date, 1 v.
Report of Inspection of Railroad Crossings, 1870–1873, 1 v.

County Clerk—Probate

PROBATE COURT RECORDS

Probate Journal, 1839–date, 29 v.; Index, 2 v.
Miscellaneous Probate Record, 1871–date, 2 v.
Estate Files, 1857–date, 250 f.b.; Index, 1 v.
Administrators' and Executors' Index to Files, 1 v.
Guardians' Index to Files, 1 v.

DOCKETS AND FEE BOOKS

Probate Docket, 1858–1869, 1 v.; 1869–date, 12 v. (A–I, 1–3)
Probate Judgment Docket, 1859–date, 7 v. (A–G)

Probate Estate Docket, 1857–date, 4 v. (A–D)
Estate Claim Docket, 1907–date, 1 v.
Guardians' Docket, 1896–date, 1 v.
Probate Fee Book, 1859–date, 8 v. (A–H)
Guardians' Fee Book, 1870–date, 2 v. (A–B)

RECORDS OF WILLS, BONDS, AND LETTERS

Record of Wills, 1852–date, 13 v. (A–M)
Testamentary Trust Record, 1909–date, 1 v.
Administrators' Record, 1856–1857, 1 v.; 1857–date, 4 v. (A–D)
Executors' Record, 1858–date, 4 v. (A–D)
Guardianship Record, 1857–date, 6 v.
Record of Guardians' Bonds, Sale of Real Estate, 1884–1886, 1 v.
Record of Conservators' Bonds and Letters, 1907–date, 1 v.
Record of Miscellaneous Bonds and Letters, 1874–date, 2 v. (A–B)

INVENTORIES, APPRAISEMENTS, SALE BILLS, ETC.

Inventory, Appraisement, and Sale Bill Record, 1854–1859, 1 v.
Inventory Record, 1858–date, 13 v. (1–2, A–K)
Copartnership Inventory and Appraisement Record, 1874–date, 2 v. (A–B)
Guardians' Inventory Record, 1873–date, 2 v. (A–B)
Appraisement Record, 1858–date, 11 v. (A–K)
Sale Record: Private Sale, 1852–date, 4 v.; Public Sale, 1859–date, 3 v.
Widows' Relinquishment and Selection Record, 1860–date, 4 v. (A–D)
Report Record, 1857–date, 26 v. (A–Z)
Estate Ledger, 1858–date, 8 v. (A–H)
Record of Petition to Sell Real Estate, 1868–1871, 1 v.
Record of Probate Court Decrees for Sale of Real Estate, 1872–1882, 1 v.
Record of Sale of Real Estate, 1881–date, 7 v.

Clerk of the Circuit Court

CIRCUIT COURT RECORDS

Circuit Court Record: Common Law, Chancery, and Criminal,

1837–1858, 2 v. (A–B); Common Law and Criminal, 1857–1861, 2 v. (C–D); Common Law, 1861–date, 6 v.; Criminal, 1861–date, 4 v.; Chancery, 1853–date, 15 v.

Record of Confession in Vacation, 1876–date, 2 v.

Default Record, 1877–1906, 1 v.

Recognizance Record, 1874, 1 v.; 1881–1908, 1 v.

Forfeiture Record, 1884–1903, 1 v.

Index to Circuit Court Record: Common Law, 1 v. each for plaintiff and defendant; Chancery 1 v. for plaintiff; Criminal, 1 v.

Circuit Court Files: Common Law, 1839–date, 105 f.b.; Criminal, 1858–date, 35 f.b.; Chancery, 1856–date, 120 f.b.

Naturalization Record: Declaration of Intention, 1856–1861, 1 v.; 1884–1888, 1 v.; Final Certificate of Naturalization, 1855–1861, 2 v.; 1875–1902, 1 v.; Declaration and Final Papers, 1867–1884, 2 v.; Soldiers and Minors, 1865–1885, 1 v.; Minors, 1856–1860, 1 v.; 1890–1900, 1 v.

Naturalization Papers, 1851–date.

DOCKETS, FEE BOOKS, ETC.

Judges' Docket, 1846–1907, 33 v.

Current volume is loose leaf.

Clerks' Docket, 1860–1907, c. 120 v.

General Docket, 1905–date, 1 v.

Judgment Docket, 1852–date, 8 v. (A–H)

Execution Docket, 1841–date, 7 v.

The first volume is in the attic.

Executions, 1852–date, 14 f.b.

Fee Book, 1846–1860, 2 v.; 1852–1856, 1 v.; 1857–1860, 3 v.; 1860–1905, c. 140 small v.; 1905–date, 4 large v.

Justice of the Peace Transcript Record, 1857–date, 4 v. (1–4)

States Attorneys' Report Record, 1885–date, 1 v.

Register of Fees (circuit clerk), 1872–date, 4 v.

Circuit Clerk—Recorder

Entry Book, 1837–1842, 2 v., in basement; 1844–1868, 8 v., in attic; 1869–1872, 1 v., in basement; 1871–date, 16 v.

Record of Deeds and Mortgages, 1837–date, 275 v. (1–275)
Transcripts from Other Counties, 2 v. (X–Y)
Plat Book, 1 v.
Deed Index, 1836–date, 12 v. (A–L) each for grantor and grantee.
Mortgage Index, 1874–date, 4 v. (1–4) each for mortgagor and mortgagee.
Abstract Record, 32 v.
Chattel Mortgage Record, 1861–date, 33 v. (54, 59, A–Z, A–E); Index, 2 v.

The first three volumes, 54, 59, A, are in the attic; others of the series are in the basement.

Record of Certificates of Levy, Sale, and Redemption, 1839–date, 6 v.

The first three volumes are in the attic.

Surveyors' Record, 1864–date, 5 v.
Record of United States Surveys, 1 v.
Original Entry Book, 1 v.
Index to Original Entries, 1 v.
Collectors' Bond Record, 1860–date, 3 v.
Town Treasurers' Bond Record, 1891–date, 1 v.
Stallion Register, 1910–date, 2 v.

IROQUOIS COUNTY[1]

The county was set off from Vermilion in 1833 and organized a year later; the county seat is Watseka. The courthouse is not fireproof, though protected against a fire originating outside by its location in a square. It is made safer also by the use of electric light and steam heat. A basement vault by its dampness threatens the records in it with destruction of a different type. The county clerk's records were destroyed by fire in 1865.

County Clerk

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' AND SUPERVISORS' RECORDS

Supervisors' Record, 1867–date, 6 v. (A–F)
Supervisors' Papers, 1880–date, 48 f.b.

COUNTY COURT RECORDS

County Court Record, 1872–date, 8 v. (1–8)
County Court Files, 1872–date: Common Law, 20 f.b.; Criminal, 22 f.b.
Drainage Record, 1891–date, 7 v. (1–7)
Drainage Papers, 1872–date, 56 f.b.
Adoption Record, 1906–date, 2 v. (1–2)
Insane and Conservators' Record, 1885–1893, 1 v. (1)
Insanity Record, 1893–date, 2 v. (1–2)
Naturalization Record, 8 v.
Judges' Docket, 1872–date, 10 v.
Judgment Docket, 1872–date, 2 v. (1–2)
Execution Docket, 1872–date, 1 v. (1)
Judges' Insanity Docket, 1893–date, 2 v. (1–2)
County Court Fee Book, 1872–date, 6 v. (1–6)

TAXATION RECORDS

Abstract of Assessments and Taxes, 1869–date, 4 v. (1–4)

[1] Examined August, 1912.

Docket of Rates and Amounts Wanted, 1876–date, 6 v. (A–C, 1–3)
School Plat Record, 1882–date, 1 v. (B)
Railroad, Telegraph, and Telephone Tax Schedules, 1902–date, 12 f.b.
Assessors' Books, 1866–date.
Collectors' Books, 1866–date.

Assessors' and collectors' books prior to 1905 are in basement vault.

Railroad Tax Book, 1861–date, 6 v. (A–F)
Board of Review Record, 1899–date, 1 v. (1)
Board of Review Complaint Docket, 1899–date, 1 v. (1)
Tax Judgment Record, 1867–1879, 5 v. (1–5)
Tax Judgment, Sale, Redemption, and Forfeiture Record, 1880–date, 7 v. (6–12)
Record of Affidavits for Tax Deeds, 1872–date, 3 v. (A–C)

RECORDS OF VITAL STATISTICS

Marriage Register, 1866–1877, 1 v. (A)

The volume registers the date and number of license; names of parties, date of marriage, and by whom celebrated.

Register of Marriages, 1877–date, 3 v. (B–D)

The board of health form is used.

Index to Marriages, 1866–date, 2 v. (1–2)
Marriage Licenses, 1866–date, 19 f.b.
Record of Applications for Marriage License, 1881–date, 21 v. (1–21)
Register of Births, 1877–date, 9 v. (1–9)
Register of Deaths, 1877–date, 5 v. (1–5)
Birth Reports and Death Reports, 1877–date, 8 f.b.
Register of Physicians and Accoucheurs, 1878–date, 1 v. (1)
Record of Dentists' and Veterinary Surgeons' Certificates, 1900–date, 1 v.
Record of Physicians' Certificates, 1877–date, 2 v. (1–2)

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Register of County and Town Officers, 1863–date, 2 v. (A–B)
Record of Soldiers' Discharges, 1867–1902, 1 v. (1)

The record gives: name, rank and company; date of enlistment, when

and why discharged; place of birth, age, height, color of complexion, eyes, and hair; occupation when enlisted; and list of battles in which engaged.

County Clerk—Probate

PROBATE COURT RECORDS

Probate Court Journal, 1863–date, 31 v. (1–31)
Probate Files, 1866–date, 223 f.b.; Index, 2 v.
Miscellaneous Probate Record, 1881–date, 8 v. (A–H)
This is a record of claims allowed against estates.

DOCKETS AND FEE BOOKS

Estate Docket, 1862–1895, 2 v. (A–B)
Probate Judges' Docket, 1866–date, 21 v. (1–21)
Probate Judgment Docket, 1859–date, 7 v. (A–G)
Docket of Official Bonds (probate), 1866–date, 6 v.
Probate Fee Book, 1866–date, 13 v. (A–13)

RECORDS OF WILLS, BONDS, AND LETTERS

Record of Wills, 1866–date, 8 v. (A–H)
Administrators' Record, 1862–date, 7 v. (A–G)
Executors' Record, 1862–date, 4 v. (A–D)
Conservators' Record, 1893–date, 2 v. (2–3)
Guardians' Record, 1862–date, 6 v. (A–F)

INVENTORIES, APPRAISEMENTS, SALE BILLS, ETC.

Inventory, Appraisement, and Sale Bill Record, 1865–1876, 2 v. (A–B)
Inventory Record, 1876–date, 9 v. (C–K)
Guardians' and Conservators' Inventory Record, 1874–date, 4 v.
Appraisement Record, 1876–date, 8 v. (C–J)
Sale Bill Record, 1876–date, 6 v. (C–H)
Estate Ledger, 1858–1895, 3 v. (A–C)
The volumes contain accounts of money received and paid out by administrators and executors.

Report Record, 1870–date, 25 v. (A–Y)
Insolvent Estate Record, 1879–date, 1 v. (A)
Widows' Relinquishment and Selection Record, 1881–date, 4 v. (1–4)

Clerk of the Circuit Court

CIRCUIT COURT RECORDS

Circuit Court Order Book [or Circuit Court Record], 1835–date, 48 v. (1–48)

Common law, chancery, and criminal records were kept together prior to 1885 (v. 27). Since then they are in separate volumes but numbered consecutively in one general series.

Confession Record, 1865–date, 4 v. (A–D)

Index to Court Records, 1858–date, 4 v. each for plaintiff and defendant.

Circuit Court Files, 1834–date, 452 f.b.

Naturalization Record, 1859–1906, 4 v.

DOCKETS, FEE BOOKS, ETC.

Judges' Docket, 1835–date, 1 v. for each term of court.

Judgment Docket, 1836–1885, 9 v. (A–I)

Execution Docket, 1837–1885, 5 v. (A–E)

Judgment and Execution Docket, 1885–date, 10 v. (K–T)

Docket of Mechanics' Liens, 1887–date, 1 v. (1)

Fee Book, 1840–date, 25 v.

Justice of the Peace Transcript Record, 1848–date, 5 v. (1–5)

Indictment Record, 1887–date, 2 v. (A–B)

Circuit Clerk—Recorder

Entry Book, 1856–date, 23 v. (A–W)

Deed and Mortgage Record, 1834–date, 389 v. (1–389)

Three paper-back folios inside "Deed Record A" contain deeds, mortgages, etc., June, 1834–April, 1835. Deeds, mortgages, releases, and chattel mortgages are kept in separate volumes which are in same series and numbered consecutively.

Plat Book, 1865–date, 5 v. (1–5)

General Index, 1835–date, 25 v. each for grantor and grantee.

Record of Certificates of Levy, Sale, and Redemption, 1848–date, 6 v. (1–6)

Surveyors' Record, 1836–1866, 4 v.; 1866–date, 4 v. (00, 0, 1–2)

Collectors' Bond Record, 1857–date, 3 v. (A–C)

Town Treasurers' Bond Record, 1890–date, 1 v. (1)

Stallion Register, 1910–date, 2 v.

JACKSON COUNTY[1]

Jackson county was organized in 1816 from Randolph and Johnson; the county seat is Murphysboro. The courthouse is not fireproof. The vaults are large and seem moderately safe. They are fitted with steel fixtures. The files in both circuit and county clerks' offices are unusually well arranged and are indexed in a loose-leaf index. The records of the county were severely damaged by a fire in 1843.

County Clerk

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' AND SUPERVISORS' RECORDS

County Commissioners' Record, September, 1823–September, 1849, 3 v.

The volumes record: orders and proceedings; lists of claims allowed against the county; lists of jurors; records relating to laying out or changing roads; ferry and tavern licenses, etc.

County Court Record, December, 1849–September, 1872, 3 v. (D–F)

Supervisors' Record, 1872–date, 9 v. (F–G, 1–7)

Index to County Court and Supervisors' Record, 1866–1896, 3 v. (A–C)

County Commissioners' and Supervisors' Papers, 1846–date, 44 f.b.

Indentures, 1843–1910, 1 file in f.b. 4.

Register of County Orders, 1856–date, 6 v. (A–F)

The register lists date of order, amount and to whom payable, and for what purpose.

Register of Bonds Issued by County, 1879–date, 1 v.

The register includes number of bond, date, amount and interest; when due and to what subscribed.

Jury List, 1872–date, 2 v.

Examined May, 1912.

COUNTY COURT RECORDS

County Court Record, 1872–date: Common Law, 2 v. (1–2); Criminal, 4 v. (1–4)

Default Record, 1874–1879, 1 v. (1)

Pages 9–415 are blank.

Record of Judgment by Confession, 1898–1908, 1 v. (A)

County Court Files, 1872–date: Common Law, 8 f.b.; Criminal, 17 f.b.

Index to County Court Files (plaintiff and defendant), 1872–date, 1 v.

The headings are as follows: names of parties; date papers were filed; number of case and number of filingbox. The volume is loose leaf and typewritten.

City Special Assessment Record, 1905–date, 1 v.

Special orders, petitions, assessment rolls, etc. are recorded.

Special Assessment Papers, 1906–date, 2 f.b.

Drainage Record: Big Lake District, 1891–date, 2 v.; Boone's Pond District, 1899–date, 1 v.; Degognia District, 1898–1908, 1 v.; Degognia and Fountain Bluff, 1909–date, 1 v.; Grand Tower District, 1909–date, 1 v.

The volumes contain records of organization and proceedings.

Adoption Record, 1895–date, 2 v. (1–2)

Adoption Papers, 1871–date, 1 f.b.

Insane and Conservators' Record, 1874–1893, 2 v. (A–B)

Volume A has 470 p., 328 of which are blank; v. B has 440 p., 403 blank.

Insanity Record, 1894–date, 1 v. (A)

Insanity Files, 1884–date, 5 f.b.

Indexed in "Miscellaneous Index."

Naturalization Record, 1872–1906, 4 v. (A–D)

Declarations of intention and certificates of naturalization are recorded. Of v. A, pp. 72–160 and 313–480 are blank; v. B, pp. 19–161 and 180–585; v. C, pp. 8–432; v. D, pp. 5–432—1,653 p. are thus wasted.

Naturalization Papers, 1866–1906, 3 f.b.

Judgment and Execution Docket, 1872–date, 2 v. (A–B)

TAXATION RECORDS

County Clerks' Statement of Taxes to Auditor, 1889–1904, 1 v.

This is a statement of the valuation of each class of property in county, and amount of state, county, road and bridge, school and other taxes.

Docket of Rates and Amounts Wanted, 1904–date, 1 v. (B)

Land Entry Book, c. 1815–1895, 1 v.

Taxable lands in the county are listed.

Road District Plat Book, 1891–1907, 1 v.

Township School District Plat Book, 1878–date, 2 v.

Assessors' Books, 1850–date.

Books for 1905–1911 are in the vault; others are in attic.

Collectors' Books, 1852–date, in vault.

Railroad Tax Book, 1885–date, 4 v.

Board of Review Record, 1899–date, 1 v. (1)

Board of Review Complaint Docket, 1899–date, 1 v. (1)

Register of Lands Sold for Taxes, 1834–1856, 1 v.

Inside the volume is a folio of about 25 p. containing transcripts of lands sold for taxes prior to 1834 as copied from auditor's books.

Tax Judgment Record, 1858–1880, 6 v. (A–F)

Tax Sale and Redemption Record, 1828–1880, 4 v. (A–D)

Record of Forfeited Lands, 1871–1879, 2 v. (A–B)

Tax Judgment, Sale, Redemption, and Forfeiture Record, 1881–date, 13 v. (G–S)

Record of Affidavits for Tax Deeds, 1870–date, 4 v. (A–D)

Treasurers' and Collectors' Accounts, 1876–date, 2 v.

Settlement Book, 1860–1871, 1 v.

The volumes contains collectors' accounts.

RECORDS OF VITAL STATISTICS

"Marriage Record, 1843–1860," 1 v.

This is a register of licenses issued, giving dates, and names of parties. The volume is 6 x 8 inches, leather bound, and has no index.

Marriage Record, November, 1842–date, 6 v. (A–F), indexed by male.

The contents include a copy of the license and certificate of marriage from 1842 to 1870; from 1870 to date the record shows date of license, names and ages of parties, date of marriage and by whom performed.

Index to Marriages (female), 1875–date, 2 v.

Register of Marriages, February, 1878–October, 1895, 2 v. (1–2)

Board of health form. The record was discontinued in October, 1895.

Marriage Licenses, 1843–date, 24 f.b.

Register of Births, 1878–date, 4 v. (1–4)

Register of Still Births, 1878–date, 1 v. (1)
Register of Deaths, 1878–date, 2 v. (1–2)
Birth Reports, 1877–date, 7 f.b.
Death Reports, 1877–date, 5 f.b.
Index to Births and Deaths, 1878–date, 1 v.
Record of Dentists' and Veterinary Surgeons' Certificates, 1903–date, 1 v.
Record of Physicians' Certificates, 1877–date, 2 v. (1–2)

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Abstracts of Elections, 1904–date, 1 v.
Assessors' Bond Record, 1899–date, 1 v. (1)
Justices' and Constables' Bond Record, 1875–date, 4 v. (1, A–C)
Official Bonds, 1843–date, 4 f.b.

Bonds of justices and county officers are listed.

Register of County Officers, 1861–date, 2 v. (A–B)
"List of County Officers, Fines, Accounts with Sheriff and Treasurer," 1843–1859, 1 v.

The volume includes names of various county officers, date of election, and expiration of term, treasurers' and sheriffs' accounts; also record of "grocery" and tavern licenses.

County Officers' Report Record, 1895–date, 2 v. (A–B)

The record contains reports of sheriff, treasurer, county and circuit clerks, superintendent of schools, etc.

Record of Marks and Brands, 1867–date, 1 v.
Estray Record, 1857–1896, 2 v. (A–B)
Militia Roll Record, 1861–1862, 1 v. (A)
Stock Certificates, State Board of Agriculture, 1888, 1 v. (1)
Swamp Land Record, 1854–1857, 1 v.

List of swamp lands in county, and record of swamp lands sold were recorded here.

County Clerk—Probate

PROBATE COURT RECORDS

Probate Court Record, 1843–date, 19 v. (C, A[1], 1–17)

Probate orders, decrees, record of reports, etc. are filed. Volumes A and B were burned in 1843.

Probate Files, 1843–date: Estates, 71 f.b.; Guardians, 30 f.b.

Index to Estates and Guardians, 1843–date, 1 v.

The headings are: name of estate, administrator or guardian; number of filingbox and number of file; date of papers. The volume is loose leaf and typewritten.

DOCKETS AND FEE BOOKS

Probate Judges' Docket, 1858–date, 11 v. (A–K)

Probate Estate Docket, November, 1879–December, 1882, 1 v. (A)

The contents include: name of estate; date of letters; name of administrator, amount and date of bond; names of widow and heirs; date and amount of inventory, and appraisement and sale bills, etc.

Guardians' Docket, 1879–1880, 1 v. (A)

The volume contains: name of guardian; names and ages of minors; dates of bond and letters; date and amount of inventories, etc.

Probate Judgment Docket, May, 1843–August, 1862, 2 v.

List of claims allowed against estate, giving name of estate and claimant, amount, nature, and date of claim. Both volumes are labeled "Allowance Book."

Probate Judgment Docket, 1862–date, 5 v. (A–E)

The headings are: name of estate and of administrator; name of claimant; date, nature and amount of claim; and order of court.

Probate Fee Book, 1857–date, 10 v. (A–J)

RECORDS OF WILLS, BONDS, AND LETTERS

Record of Wills [and Letters and Bonds], 1843–1864, 2 v., bound in one.

The volumes contain letters and bonds of administrators, executors, and guardians, and copies of wills.

Record of Wills, 1843–date, 4 v. (A–D)

Volume A contains copies of wills recorded in the volumes, 1843–1864.

Restored Will Record, 1827–1842, 1 v.

The volume contains records of wills and letters of administration and letters testamentary passed upon by the board appointed to restore records destroyed by the fire. The volume is 8 x 13 inches and is in the circuit clerk's vault.

Administrators' Record, 1859–date, 5 v. (A–E)

Volume C, 1879–1902, contains both administrators and executors.

Executors' Record, 1879–date, 3 v. (C–E)

Conservators' Record, 1894–date, 1 v. (A)

Guardians' Record, 1859–date, 5 v. (A–E)
Administrators' Bond Record (for sale of real estate), 1899–date, 1 v. (1)
Miscellaneous Bond Record, 1873–date, 2 v. (A–B)

INVENTORIES, APPRAISEMENTS, AND SALE BILLS

Inventory Record, 1869–1881, 3 v. (A–C), in attic.
Inventory Record, 1881–date, 4 v. (D–G)
Guardians' Inventory Record, 1872–date, 2 v. (1–2)
Appraisement Record, 1869–date, 6 v. (A–F)
Volumes A and B are in attic.
Sale Record, 1869–date, 3 v. (A–C)

REPORT RECORDS, ETC.

Report Record, 1871–date, 5 v. (A–E)
Final Report Record, 1895–date, 2 v. (A–B)
Guardians' Report Record, 1886–date, 4 v. (1–4)
Probate Ledger, 1866–1867, 1 v. (A)
Insolvent Estate Record, 1875–date, 1 v. (1)
Personal Property Set Off, 1869–1902, 1 v. (A)
A record of personal property set off to widow.
Widows' Relinquishment and Selection Record, 1896–date, 2 v. (A–B)
Record of Proceedings on Petitions to Sell Real Estate, 1870–date, 3 v. (A–C)
Petition, decree, and report of sale are recorded.
Record of Proceedings on Guardians' Petitions to Sell Real Estate to Pay Debts, 1874–1901, 1 v. (A)

Clerk of the Circuit Court

CIRCUIT COURT RECORDS

Journal A, Board of Investigators, 1843–1844, 1 v.
The journal contains proceedings of the board appointed to restore records lost in the fire of 1843; also such records as were restored by affidavits, etc.
Record of Board of Investigators, 1843–1844, 2 v.
Proceedings of board on restoration of court records are given.
Circuit Court Record: Common Law, Criminal, and Chancery,

1844–1870, 6 v. (E–J); Chancery, 1870–date, 19 v. (1–19); Common Law, 1870–date, 10 v. (1–10); Confession, 1907–date, 1 v. (10); Criminal, 1870–date, 5 v. (1–5)

Index to Court Records, 1858–date, 4 v. each for plaintiff and defendant.

Circuit Court Files, 1844–date: Chancery, 42 f.b.; Common Law, 37 f.b.; Criminal, 34 f.b.

Index to Court Files, 1 v.

Naturalization Record, 1868–1898, 1 v. (A)

Declarations of intention and final certificates are recorded.

Naturalization Record, Declaration of Intention, 1858–1886, 1 v. (A)

Record of Final Certificate of Naturalization, 1859–1892, 1 v. (A)

DOCKETS, FEE BOOKS, ETC.

Judges' Docket, 1843–1856, 1 v., in attic; 1857–date, 27 v. (A–Z, 28)

Judgment Docket, 1857–date, 5 v. (A–E)

Execution Docket, 1873–date, 2 v. (B–C)

Docket of Mechanics' Liens, 1887–date, 2 v. (1–2)

Circuit Court Fee Book, 1843–1900, 13 v., in attic; 1900–date, 10 v. (N–W)

Justice of the Peace Transcript Record, 1884–date, 3 v. (B, B, C)

States Attorneys' Report Record, 1873–date, 1 v. (1)

Indictment Record, 1873–date, 1 v. (1)

Coroners' Inquests, 1845–date, 6 f.b.

These are indexed in "Miscellaneous Index."

Circuit Clerk—Recorder

DEED AND MORTGAGE RECORDS

Entry Book, 1857–date, 8 v. (A–H)

Deed Record, 1853–date, 101 v. (D–Z, 1–77)

There are two volumes "P," two "Q," and no "2." Volumes A, B, and C were burned in 1843.

Mortgage Record, 1861–date, 80 v. (1–80)

Up to 1895 chattel mortgages were recorded with real estate mortgages. Since 1895 they have been recorded in separate volumes, but these are kept in same series and numbered consecutively with volumes of real estate mortgages.

Release Record, 1874–date, 8 v. (A, 1–7)
Plat Book, 1888–date, 4 v.
Complete Index, 1843–c. 1873, 1 v. each for grantor and grantee.
General Index, 1843–date, 10 v. each for grantor and grantee.
Index to Marginal Releases, 1905–date, 1 v. (1)
Index to Assignments, 1905–date, 1 v. (1)
Index to Chattel Mortgages, 1886–date, 2 v.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Masters' Certificate of Sale Record, 1863–date, 2 v. (A and C)
Record of Certificates of Levy, Sale, and Redemption, 1873–date, 2 v. (A–B)
Original Land Entry Book, c. 1815–1872, 1 v.
Record of United States Surveys, 1859, 1 v.
Surveyors' Record, 1885–date, 2 v. (1–2)
Miscellaneous Record, 1866–date, 9 v. (A–I)
Record of Sale of School Lands, 1841–1851, 1 v.

The volume lists lands sold, giving date of sale, name of purchaser, residence, number of acres, price and description of land. The volume is 8 x 13 inches, and has no label. Only 21 pages have been used.

Collectors' Bond Record, 1879–date, 2 v. (B–C)

JASPER COUNTY[1]

Jasper county was organized in 1835 from Crawford and Clay; the county seat is Newton. The courthouse is not fireproof, being constructed with wooden floors and lath and plaster walls. The vaults are built with concrete floors and thick stone walls; the steel shutters, however, are hinged on wooden frames. The vaults are too small, being about eight by ten feet and twelve feet high, and are overcrowded. The shelves are of wood, and the books stand on end. The filingboxes are of tin, fitted into wooden pigeonholes five by six inches. The law and criminal files of county court, old supervisors' papers, marriage licenses, birth and death reports, assessors' books, 1860–1909, etc., are in a storeroom upstairs. It is said that at some time or other the top of the courthouse was blown off and some miscellaneous papers lost.

County Clerk

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' AND SUPERVISORS' RECORDS

County Commissioners' Order Book, March, 1835–December, 1845, 1 v. (A)

"Records," March, 1846–December, 1854, 1 v. (A)

Order Book, March, 1855–March, 1860, 1 v.

Supervisors' Record, September, 1860–date, 5 v. (C–G)

Supervisors' Minute Book, September, 1860–May, 1870, 1 v.

The volume is labeled "Circuit Court Orders."

Supervisors' Papers, 1860–1906, in bundles on shelves in storeroom; 1907–date, 5 f.b., in vault.

Register of Bonds Issued by County, 1877–1907, 1 v.

Register of County Orders, 1860–date, 4 v. (A–D)

Names of parties to whom orders were issued, purpose and amount are registered.

Jury List, 1872–date, 1 v.

COUNTY COURT RECORDS

County Court Record, 1872–date: Common Law, 2 v.; Criminal, 2 v.; Defaults, 1 v.

[1] Examined March, 1912.

Index to Court Record, 1872–date, 1 v. each for plaintiff and defendant.

County Court Files (common law and criminal), 1872–date, in storeroom.

Insanity Record, 1878–date, 2 v.

Record of trial, together with verdict of jury or commission is given; also record of conservator's bond and letters where one is appointed.

Naturalization Record, 1868–1906, 2 v. (1–2)

The record contains final certificates. Volume 2 has only one entry.

Judgment Docket, 1872–date, 1 v. (1)

Execution Docket, 1872–date, 1 v. (1)

Insanity Docket, 1895–date, 1 v.

The headings are name of party, name of petitioner, date of trial, and order of court.

Fee Book (common law and criminal), 1872–date, 5 v.

TAXATION RECORDS

Abstracts of Assessment and Taxes, 1872–date, 4 v. (A–D)

Statement of Assessments and Taxes, 1862–1872, 1 v.; 1876–date, 1 v. (A)

Land Entry Book, c. 1837–1872, 1 v.

The volume lists names of original patentees, location of land, amount and value.

School Plat Record, 1873–date, 2 v. (A–B)

School Tax Record, 1858–1866, 1 v.

Contents: certificate of levy by commissioners, list of persons taxable, etc.

Assessors' Books, 1860–date, and Collectors' Books, 1860–date.

Board of Review Record, 1899–date, 1 v. (1)

Board of Review Complaint Docket, 1899–date, 1 v. (1)

Tax Judgment Record, 1858–1879, 5 v. (A–E)

Tax Sale and Redemption Record, 1858–1879, 5 v. (A–E)

Tax Forfeiture Record, 1858–1879, 3 v.

Tax Judgment, Sale, Redemption, and Forfeiture Record, 1880–date, 11 v.

Record of Affidavits for Tax Deeds, 1852–date, 3 v. (1–3)

RECORDS OF VITAL STATISTICS

Marriage Record, February, 1835–May, 1851, 1 v.; June, 1851–

May, 1859, 1 v.; February, 1858–October, 1866, 1 v.; October, 1866–April, 1878, 2 v. (B–C)

The marriage record, 1835–1878, contains only certificates of issue of license with names and dates, and certificate of marriage.

Register of Marriages, 1878–date, 2 v. (D–E)

Board of health form is used.

Index to Marriages, 1874–date, 2 v.

Record of Applications for Marriage License, 1899–1901, 1 v.; 1909–date, 2 v.

Marriage Licenses, 1878–date.

Part of these are in the storeroom and part in the old case in the office.

Register of Births, 1877–date, 5 v. (1–5); Index, 1 v.

Register of Still Births, 1878–date, 1 v.

Register of Deaths, 1878–date, 3 v. (1–3); Index, 1 v.

Birth Reports, 1878–date.

Death Reports, 1878–date.

Part of the birth and death reports are in the storeroom and part in an old case in the office.

Record of Physicians' Certificates, 1878–date, 2 v.

There are only a few entries in each volume.

Architects' License Record, 1900–1907, 1 v.

Architects' Register, 1900–1907, 1 v.

Register of Physicians and Accoucheurs, 1878–date, 1 v.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Election Record, 1845–1870, 1 v.

From 1845 to 1858 the volume was used as a record of justices and constables, giving dates of election and removal; from 1858 to 1870 it was used for an abstract of votes for national, state, and local offices.

Election Record, 1872–1902, 2 v.

Abstracts of votes are given.

Corporation Record, 1860-1876, 1 v.

The volume is a record of elections for incorporation of towns.

Register of Commissions, 1857–date, 2 v. (A–B)

The volumes contain a record of election of county and town officers, giving dates of election, commission, and expiration of term.

Militia Roll Record, 1861–1862, 1 v.

"Stock Marks" (record of marks and brands), 1839–1868, 1 v.

The volume is 6 x 8 inches, with cardboard back.

Estray Book, 1835–1858, 1 v.
The volume is 6 x 8 inches, with cardboard back.

Superintendents' Report Record, 1892–date, 1 v. (1)
This is a record of moneys paid out for school purposes, etc.

County Clerk—Probate

PROBATE COURT RECORDS

"Probate Court Order Book," June, 1835–April, 1843, 1 v.
This is a record of letters of administration, sale appraisement and inventory bills, and orders allowing claims against estates. The volume is 8 x 14 inches, leather bound.

Probate Court Record, 1850–date, 21 v. (A–U)

Probate Judgment Record, 1889–date, 1 v. (1)
Contents: records of claims allowed by court on days set for hearing of claimants.

Probate Files, 1867–date, 272 f.b., in vault.

DOCKETS AND FEE BOOKS

Probate Court Docket, 1858–date, 7 v. (1–7)

Probate Judgment Docket, 1858–1864, 1 v.; 1868–1873, 1 v.

Guardians' Docket, 1872–1873, 1 v. (A)
The contents include: name of estate, guardian and ward; date of letters, bonds, etc.; date and amount of inventory, etc.; and record of settlements.

Probate Fee Book, 1858–1865, 1 v.; 1873–date, 4 v. (B–E)

RECORDS OF WILLS, BONDS, AND LETTERS

Record of Wills, 1850–date, 2 v. (F–G)

Record of Proof of Publication of Notice to Claimants, 1880–1899, 1 v. (A)

Administrators' Bond Record, 1860–1865, 1 v.

Administrators' Record, 1861–date, 4 v. (A–D)

Executors' Record, 1902–date, 1 v. (B)

Executors' and Guardians' Record, 1 v. (A)
The record of executors' bonds and letters is for the years 1861–1902; that of guardians' bonds and letters for 1861–1872. The latter is continued in

Guardians' Record, 1873–date, 3 v. (B–D)

Guardians' Bond Record, 1860, 1 v.

Administrators' Bond Record, Sale of Real Estate, 1896–date, 1 v.

Record of Miscellaneous Bonds and Letters, 1873–date, 2 v. (A–B)

INVENTORIES, APPRAISEMENTS, AND SALE BILLS

Inventory, Appraisement, and Sale Bill Record, 1849–1857, 1 v.; 1858–1870, 2 v.

Inventory Record, 1869–date, 4 v. (I–L)

Guardians' Inventory Record, 1875–date, 1 v.

Appraisement Record, 1857–date, 4 v.

Sale Bill Record, 1857–1867, 1 v. (A); 1867–date, 3 v. (I–K)

REPORT RECORDS, ETC.

Report Record, 1873–date, 5 v. (A–E)

Guardians' Report Record, 1888–date, 2 v. (A–B)

Probate Ledger and Accounts Current, 1874–date, 3 v. (1–3)

This is a combination of estate docket and claim ledger, giving name of estate, of administrator and bondsmen, amount and date of bond, date of letters, names of widow and heirs, date and amount of inventory, appraisement and sale bills, and also list of claims paid.

Guardians' Accounts Current Record, 1849–1858, 1 v.

Record of Proceedings on Petitions to Sell Real Estate, 1873–1878, 1 v. (A)

Clerk of the Circuit Court

CIRCUIT COURT RECORDS

Circuit Court Record: Common Law, Chancery, and Criminal, 1835–1881, 7 v. (A–G); Chancery, 1881–date, 18 v.; Common Law and Criminal, 1881–1884, 1 v.; Common Law, 1885–date, 2 v.; Criminal, 1885–date, 2 v.

Confession Record, 1907–date, 1 v. (1)

Default Record, 1869–1887, 1 v.

Recognizance Record, 1869–date, 1 v.

Index to Court Records, 1857–date, 2 v. each for plaintiff and defendant.

Circuit Court Files, 1835–date, 464 f.b.; Index, 3 v.

DOCKETS, FEE BOOKS, ETC.

Judges' Docket, 1860–date, 29 v. (C–Z, 1–5)

Judgment Docket, 1852–1885, 3 v. (A–D)
Execution Docket, 1859–1885, 4 v. (B–E)
Judgment and Execution Docket, 1885–date, 2 v. (F–G)
Docket of Mechanics' Liens, 1887–date, 1 v. (A)
States Attorneys' Report Record, 1873–date, 1 v. (A)
Justice of the Peace Transcript Record, 1859–date, 2 v. (A–B)
Indictment Record, 1907–date, 1 v. (1)

Circuit Clerk—Recorder

DEED AND MORTGAGE RECORDS

Entry Book, 1850–date, 10 v. (1–10)
Deed Record, 1836–date, 91 v.
Deed Index, 1836–date, 6 v. each for grantor and grantee.
Mortgage Record, 1854–date, 69 v.
Index to Mortgages, 1836–date, 4 v. (A–D)
Release Record, 1871–date, 3 v. (A–C)
Lease Record, 1905–date, 5 v.
Mainly a record of leases of oil and gas rights.
Plat Record, c. 1885–date, 2 v. (1–2)
Index to Marginal Releases, c. 1902–date, 1 v. (1)

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Masters' Certificate Record, 1870–date, 2 v. (C–D)
Record of Sheriffs' Certificates of Sale and Redemption, 1859–date, 4 v. (B–E)
Record of United States Surveys, 1874, 1 v.
Notes and plats locating corners, etc. of sections and quarter sections are given.
Record of the Appointment of Trustees, 1885–date, 1 v. (A)
The volume is used for records of the appointment of trustees of lodges, etc.
Collectors' Bond Record, 1867–date, 2 v. (A–B)
Stallion Register, 1910–date, 2 v. (1–2)
Miscellaneous Record, 1885–date, 2 v. (A–B)

JEFFERSON COUNTY[1]

Jefferson county was set off in 1819 from Edwards and White; the county seat is Mt. Vernon. The courthouse is not fireproof, but the vaults appear to be. They are fitted with wooden furniture and wooden shelves on which the books stand on end.

County Clerk

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' AND SUPERVISORS' RECORDS

County Commissioners' Court Record, June 7, 1819–1871, 7 v.

The contents include ordinary county business, lists of road overseers and persons subject to road labor, jury lists, licenses for taverns, etc.

Proceedings of the Board of Supervisors, April 1, 1875–date, 5 v. (A–E)

Board of Supervisors' Papers, 1871–date, indexed.

Road Plats, 1875, 1 f.b. (165)

Appointment of Road Overseers, 1856, 1 f.b. (69)

Record of County Orders, 1867–date, 3 v. (1–3)

"Register of Railroad Bonds," 1869, and Jail Bonds, 1875, 1 v.

The contents include date, number and amount of bond, when due, rate of interest, and to what railroad subscription was made.

Indentures, 1820–1879, 1 f.b. (198)

Jury List, 1872–date, 2 v.

COUNTY COURT RECORDS

County Court Record (common law and criminal), 1872–date, 4 v.

County Court Files: Common Law and Criminal, 1872–date; Insanity, 1860–date.

These files are scattered and can be found only with the help of the index.

Assignment Record, 1878–1896, 1 v. (1)

Adoption Record, 1908–date, 1 v. (1)

Insanity Record, 1895–date, 1 v. (1)

[1] Examined December, 1911.

Naturalization Record, 1878–1905, 2 v.

The naturalization files are scattered and can be found only by aid of index.

Miscellaneous Court Record, 1904–date, 1 v. (1)

The volume contains: bonds of county officers; appointment of appraisers for insolvents; decrees of probate judge to sell real estate; contracts with county physician; powers of attorney; adoptions; incorporations of villages, etc.

County Judges' Minute Book (common law and criminal), 1872–date, 5 v. (4–8)

Clerks' Docket (common law and criminal), 1884–date, 8 v.

Bar Docket (common law and criminal), 1881–date, 3 v.

Judgment Docket, 1872–date, 1 v. (A)

Execution Docket, 1858–1871, 1 v.

The volume contains 640 p., blank after p. 19.

Execution Docket, 1873–date, 1 v. (A)

County Court Fee Book, 1872–date, 7 v.

TAXATION RECORDS

Abstracts of Assessments, 1844–1856, 1858, 1857–1870, 1885–1888, in 5 f.b. (117, 167, 309, 311, 445)

Abstract of Assessments, 1891–date, 2 v. (1–2)

Entries of Conveyances (lots), 1870–1873, 1 v. (1)

Entries of Conveyances (lands), 1857–1873, 1 v. (1)

Entry Book, 1819–1904, 1 v.

The volume contains date of entry of land, name of patentee, description and amount of land. The entries up to 1849 are certified to by auditor, as correct copies from his books; the later entries have been added from time to time.

School District Plat Book, 1872–date, 1 v. (1)

School Plats, c. 1875–date, on file in vault.

Tax Levies: School Tax Levies, 1858–date; Road, Bridge, etc. Levies, 1871–date.

These are filed in the vault and indexed by years.

Road Tax Lists, 1846, 1871 (four districts), and 1881, in 3 f.b. (75, 69, 333)

These lists give names of persons subject to road tax and amount of tax due on each class of property.

Tax List (personal property), no dates, probably c. 1830, 1 f.b. (114)

Assessors' Books, 1863, 1865, 1874–1891, in attic storeroom; 1892–date, in clerk's office and vault.

Collectors' Books, 1874–1891, in attic storeroom; 1892–date, in vault.

Railroad Tax Book, 1877–1886, 1896–date, 4 v.

Telegraph and Telephone Tax Book, 1889–date, 2 v.

Delinquent Tax Lists, 1835, 1836, 1840, 1841, 1842, 1845, 1846, 1847, in f.b. 120; 1848–1855, in f.b. 152; 1849–1871, in f.b. 117.

Delinquent Tax Lists, 1881–1882, 32 v., in attic; 1895–date, in vault.

Back Tax Record, 1891–1894, 1 v.

Tax Judgment Record, 1857–1880, 5 v. (A–E)

Tax Sale Record, 1857–1874, 2 v. (A–B)

Tax Sale and Redemption Record, 1874–1875, 1879, 2 v.

Tax Judgment, Sale, Redemption, and Forfeiture Record, 1881–date, 13 v.

Record of Affidavits for Tax Deeds, 1866–date, 4 v. (2, 3, A, B)

Affidavits for Tax Deeds, 7 f.b.

Collectors' Accounts with County, 1872–1886, 1 v.

Statements of amounts received and from what source, and how disposed of are given.

Treasurers' Accounts with County, 1873–date.

Contents: an account of money received and from what source, and summarized statement of money paid out.

RECORDS OF VITAL STATISTICS

Marriage Register, 1819–1864, 1 v.; 1864–1875, 1 v.; 1875–c. 1902, 2 v. (3–4)

Names of parties, date, and person officiating are registered. The entries in the second volume are listed alphabetically by males.

Register of Marriages, 1877–date, 3 v. (A–C); Index, by male and female, 3 v.

Board of health form is used.

Record of Applications for Marriage License, 1877–date, 6 v.

Marriage Licenses, 1848–date, 65 f.b.

Register of Births, 1877–date, 6 v. (1–6); Index, 1 v.

Register of Still Births, 1878–1903, 1 v.

There are 126 entries; none after p. 9.

Register of Deaths, 1877–date, 3 v. (1–3); Index, 1 v.

Record of Physicians', Surgeons', Midwives' and Dentists' Certificates, 1877–date, 6 v.

Agricultural Statistics, 1877, 1880, 2 v.

Census Enumeration of the Four Southern Townships of Jefferson County, 1865; also 1 v. without date.

Heads of families and number of children under twenty-one years of age are listed. Both volumes are in jury room.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Abstracts of Elections, 1861, 1874–1877, 2 f.b.; 1880, 2 f.b.; 1904, 2 f.b.

Election Papers (abstract and poll books for various townships), 1834–date, 14 f.b.

Assessors' Bond Record, 1898–date, 1 v. (1)

Constables' Bond Record, 1874–date, 2 v. (A–B)

Justice of the Peace Bond Record, 1874–date, 2 v. (A–B)

Bonds of County and Township Officers, 1843–date, f.b. 67–72, 75 *et seq.*

Register of Officers (township), 1865–date, 3 v. (2–4)

Estray Record, 1864–1909, 1 v. (A)

Record of Registered Stock, 1903–date, 1 v. (1)

Justice of the Peace Dockets, 1865–1904.

Coroners' Inquests, 1875–date, 8 f.b.

Swamp Land Record, 1 v.

"List of swamp lands patented to the state" in Jefferson county as certified to by auditor, January 9, 1857.

School Commissioners' Report of Lands Sold, 1837–1844, 1 f.b. (117)

County Clerk—Probate

PROBATE COURT RECORDS

"Probate Record–A," January, 1831–September, 1844, 1 v.

The record contains: letters of administration and of guardianship; settlements; inventories and sale bills; wills, etc. For records prior to 1831 see County commissioners' court record, v. 1.

"Order Books," 1844–date, 12 v.

The volumes contain reports and settlements of administrators or executors, showing accounts of money received and paid out.

Probate Record, January, 1854–date, 15 v. (6–20)

The records contain: probate of will and issuing of letters testamentary; letters of administration and of guardianship; allowance of claims; petition to sell real estate to pay debts, etc.

Index to Probate Records, 1831–1839, 1 v. (A)

Probate Court Files, 1831–date.

Estates, guardianships, conservatorships, and adoptions are filed and indexed together. The earlier papers are filed alphabetically.

Index to Probate Files, 1 v.

Docket of Administrators, Executors, Guardians, and Conservators, 1877–1904.

The contents include: date of letters and bonds; name of surety and amount of bond; date of reports, etc. This was superseded in 1904 by estate docket.

Estate Docket, 1904–date, 1 v. (1)

The volume contains: name of administrator; date of letters; bond; names of widow and heirs; date of filing various papers; and reference to page in the record book.

Estate Ledger, 1865–1878, 1 v.; 1904–date, 1 v.

"Probate Court Docket," 1859–1872, 1 v.

Judges' Estate Ledger, 1880–1883, 1 v.

Probate Judges' Minute Book, 1866–date, 17 v.

The volumes list: names of parties and kind of action; names of attorneys; date of proceedings; and minutes of judge.

Probate Judgment Docket, 1859–date, 6 v. (A–F)

Probate Docket, 1885–1887, 2 v.

This is used as a record of claims made against estates and of judgment of court upon them.

Docket of Official Bonds, 1873–1894, 2 v. (A–B)

This includes bonds of administrators, executors, guardians, etc.

Probate Fee Book, 1881–date, 10 v.

Conservators', Guardians' and Insanity Fee Book, 1911–date, 1 v.

RECORDS OF WILLS, BONDS, AND LETTERS

Record of Wills, September, 1866–date, 2 v. (A–B)

"Record of Bonds," 1850–1858, 1 v.

The volume contains administrators' and executors' bonds.

Record of Administrators' Petitions, Letters, Oaths, and Bonds, 1858–date, 5 v.

Record of Executors' Bonds, Oaths, and Letters, 1859–date, 3 v.

Guardians' Record, 1858–date, 5 v.

Record of Conservators' Petitions, Bonds, and Letters, 1873–date, 1 v. (A)

Record of Additional Bonds and Assignment of Dower, 1 v. (B)

This is a record of additional bonds, 1897–date, and record of assignment of dower, 1896–1904.

"Additional Bond Register," 1881–1897, 1 v.

INVENTORIES, APPRAISEMENTS, AND SALE BILLS

Inventory Record, 1863–date, 6 v. (A–F)

Guardians' Inventory Record, 1874–date, 2 v. (A–B)

Appraisement Bill Record, 1862-date, 6 v. (A–F)

Sale Bill Record (personal property), 1859–date, 4 v. (A–D)

REPORT RECORDS, ETC.

Guardians' Report Record, 1859–date, 7 v.

Guardians' Ledger, 1865–1873, 1 v.; 1880–1883, 1 v.

The contents include: name of guardian; date of letters; date and amount of bond and sureties; names and age of heirs; date of filing accounts current by guardian.

Insolvent Estate Record, 1876–1901, 1 v. (A)

Widows' Relinquishment and Selection Record, 1866–date, 5 v.

Record of Proceedings on Petitions to Sell Real Estate, 1867–date, 3 v. (A–C)

For earlier records see "Order Book" and "Probate Record."

Record of Guardians' Sales of Real Estate, 1878–date, 1 v. (A)

Clerk of the Circuit Court

CIRCUIT COURT RECORDS

Circuit Court Record, 1819–date, 38 v.

Up to May, 1860 (v. G), chancery records were kept with others; since that date they have been in separate volumes.

Recognizance Record, 1869–1885, 1 v. (A)

Index to Court Records, c. 1858–date, 3 v. each for plaintiff and defendant.

Circuit Court Files, 1820–date.
Naturalization Record, 1869–1896, 1 v. (A)

DOCKETS, FEE BOOKS, ETC.

Judges' Docket, 1839–date, 21 v.
Judgment Docket, 1821–date, 6 v.
Execution Docket, 1842–1894, 4 v.
Docket of Mechanics' Liens, 1887–date, 1 v. (1)
Fee Book, 1819–date, 28 v.
Register of Jurors, 1861–date, 1 v. (A)
Jury List, 1846–1857, 1 v.

The volume is not labeled; it was found in the superintendent's office.

Justice of the Peace Transcript Record, 1849–date, 4 v. (A–D)
Justice of the Peace Transcripts (original papers), 1874–date, filed in labeled boxes.
Indictment Record, 1879–1895, 1 v. (A); 1895–1905, 1911–date, 1 v. (B)
States Attorneys' Report Record, 1873–date, 1 v.

The volume records name of defendant; court of trial; of what convicted; fees; fines, etc.

Register of Clerks' Fees, 1874–date, 3 v. (1–3)

Circuit Clerk—Recorder

DEED AND MORTGAGE RECORDS

Entry Book, 1864–date, 8 v. (A–H)
Deed Record, 1822–date, 83 v. (A–Z, 27–83)
Mortgage Record, 1822–date, 76 v. (A–J, 1–66)

Mortgages and deeds were kept in same volumes up to 1857. Since 1857 mortgages have been kept in a separate series; chattel mortgages are in the same series with real estate mortgages, but in separate volumes.

Deed Index, 1822–date, 9 v. each for grantor and grantee.
Mortgage Index, 1874–date, 5 v. each for grantor and grantee.

Before 1874 mortgages are indexed with deeds; and after 1885 chattel mortgages are indexed separately, 2 v. to date.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Record of Certificates, 1868–date, 1 v. (A)

Contents: certificates of election of trustees of various lodges, and trustees of churches; record of votes to incorporate cities; records of cor-

porations, stating purpose, stockholders and officers, amount of stock, etc.; also, beginning about 1898 and continuing to date, certificates of sheriffs' and masters' sales.

Record of Sheriffs' and Masters' Certificates of Sale, 1868–1898, 1 v. (1)

Record of Sheriffs' Certificates, 1859–1890, 1 v.

This is a volume of printed forms.

"Sheriffs' Certificates, etc., no. 1," 1851–1866, 1 v.

Levy Record, 1851–date, 2 v. (1–2)

Certificates of levy and description of property levied are recorded.

Jefferson County Surveys, 1837–1867, 1 v.

The volume contains surveys and field notes made by county surveyor. Volume A is in the surveyor's office. The second volume, which is unlabeled, is in the circuit clerk's vault.

Land Descriptions, 1880–1901, 1 v. (1)

Plats and descriptions certified to by county surveyor are recorded.

Record of United States Surveys, 1 v.

Road Plat Record, 1909–date, 1 v. (1)

Record of Bonds and Commissions, 1856–date, 3 v. (1–3)

Record of Town Collectors' Bonds, 1907–date, 1 v. (4)

Stallion Register, 1911–date, 1 v.

School Commissioners' Account Book, 1836–1849, 1 v.

The volume contains appointment of commissioners; account of sale of school land, including name of purchaser, amount and value of land; account of money loaned. The record contains 180 p.; on the last two pages is an enumeration of children under 21 years of age, 1841 and 1845, giving number in each township; total in 1841, 4038, in 1845, 4380.[1] The record also contains petitions for sale of school lands. In county superintendent's office.

School Commissioners' Record, 1847–1849.

The record contains petitions, accounts of sale, etc. It is in county superintendent's office.

[1] There is some error in the figures.

JERSEY COUNTY[1]

Jersey county was set off from Greene in 1839; the county seat is Jerseyville.

County Clerk

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' AND SUPERVISORS' RECORDS

County Commissioners' Record, 1839–1849, 2 v. (A–B)

This is a record of roads, bridges, ferries, taverns, rates of taxes, lists of jurors, claims allowed against county, etc. Volume B contains a record of swamp lands in 1856, giving list of lands and location and value; also plats and record of sales.

County Court Record, 1849–1877, 3 v. (A–C); June, 1877–March, 1879, 1 v. (D)

Supervisors' Record, 1879–date, 5 v.

Index to County Records, 1841–date, 1 v. (A)

Road Plat Record, 1872–date, 1 v.

County Commissioners' and Supervisors' Papers, 1869–date, 39 f.b.

Claims, reports to board, miscellaneous petitions and orders, etc. are included.

COUNTY COURT RECORDS

County Court Record, 1872–date, 3 v. (1–3)

County Court Files (common law and criminal), 1872–date, 30 f.b.

Common law and criminal files are in same boxes. The papers are filed alphabetically.

Drainage and Levee Record, 1904–date, 1 v.

Assignment Record, 1883–1907, 1 v. (A)

The record contains inventories of goods of insolvents, etc.

Insanity Record, 1878–1893, 1 v. (A); 1894–1900, 1 v.

The volume contains records of proceedings and verdicts in insanity cases.

[1]Examined June, 1912.

Naturalization Record, Declaration of Intention, 1859–1873, 1 v. (1)
Record of Final Certificate of Naturalization, 1854–1870, 1 v.
Naturalization Record, 1854–1906, 6 v. (A–F)
The volumes contain a record of declarations of intention and of final certificates.
Naturalization Papers, 1860–1906, 4 f.b.
Judges' Docket, 1872–date, 2 v.
Judgment Docket, 1872–1910, 1 v. (A)
Execution Docket, 1860–1872, 1 v. (1); 1872–date, 1 v. (A)
Insanity Docket, 1893–date, 1 v.
County Court Fee Book: Common Law and Criminal, 1872–date, 4 v. (A–D); Insanity, 1888–date, 1 v.

TAXATION RECORDS

Abstract of Assessments and Taxes, 1874–1900, 2 v., in basement; 1901–1907, 2 v.
Docket of Rates and Amounts Wanted, 1879–date, 2 v. (1–2)
County Clerks' Statement of Taxes to Auditor, 1888–date, 1 v.
School District Plat Record, 1886–date, 2 v. (1–2)
Railroad Tax Schedules, 1896–date, 2 f.b.
Assessors' and Collectors' Books, 1845, 1849, 1850, 1851.
Assessors' Books, 1852–date.
All collectors' and assessors' books prior to 1902 are in basement.
Collectors' Books, 1853–date.
Railroad Tax Book, 1875–1882, 1 v., in basement.
Telegraph Tax Book, 1885–date, 2 v.
Board of Review Record, 1899–date, 1 v. (1)
Board of Review Complaint Docket, 1899–date, 1 v. (1)
Tax Judgment Record, 1859–1881, 4 v. (C–F)
Tax Sale and Redemption Record, 1840–1881, 6 v. (A–F)
Tax Judgment, Sale, Redemption, and Forfeiture Record, 1882–date, 4 v. (G–J)

RECORDS OF VITAL STATISTICS

Register of Marriages, 1877–date, 2 v.
Board of health form.
Marriage Register, 1839–date, 2 v. (A–B)

The register includes name of man and woman; date of marriage; name of person officiating; date registered; and after 1874, ages of parties.

Record of Applications for Marriage License, 1855–date, 12 v. (A–L)

Marriage Licenses, 1839–date, 16 f.b., in vault.

Register of Births, 1877–date, 3 v. (1–3); Index, 1 v.

Register of Deaths, 1877–date, 3 v. (1–3)

Birth Reports, 1878–date, 4 f.b.

Death Reports, 1878–date, 2 f.b.

Record of Physicians' Certificates, 1877–date, 2 v. (1–2)

Register of Physicians and Midwives, 1877–date, 1 v. (1)

The register includes signature; place of residence; school of practice; age; name of school from which graduated; date of license, etc.

Record of Certificates of Veterinary Surgeons, 1905–date.

Record of Architects' Licenses, 1897–date, 1 v.

Copy of license, by whom issued, and name of graduate with address are recorded.

Abstract of Agricultural Statistics, 1878, 1 v.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Election Returns, 1839–date, 9 f.b.

These files contain poll books, tally sheets, and abstracts of votes.

Assessors' Bond Record, 1899–date, 1 v. (1)

Justices' and Constables' Bond Record, 1889–date, 3 v.

Register of County Officers, 1885–date, 1 v.

Record of Ear Marks, 1840–1891, 1 folio v.

Land Entry Book, 1831–1857, 1 v., labeled "Land Book."

Records of United States Surveys, 1856.

The notes contain descriptions and plats of corners of sections and quarter sections.

County Clerk—Probate

PROBATE COURT RECORDS

Probate Order Book, 1839–date, 14 v. (A–N)

The volumes record probate orders and proceedings of court, and lists of claims allowed.

Probate Record, 1839–1852, 2 v. (A–B)

The contents include wills, inventories, sale bills, bonds and letters of

administrators, executors and guardians, reports and settlements. The volumes are labeled "Probate J. P. Record."

Probate Judgment Record, 1870–1874, 1 v. (A)

This is a record of claims presented for adjustment, and order of court thereon, giving name of estate and of claimant, amount, nature and date of claim.

Probate Judgment Record, 1887–date.

The headings include name of estate and of administrator; amount of claim; and reference to probate record, page and volume.

Index to Probate Records, 1839–1887, 1 v.

The volume indexes name of estate and of administrator, reference to page and volume of fee book, order book, inventory record, will record, sale record, etc., and number of filingbox. Files from 1887 to date are filed alphabetically but not indexed.

Probate Files, 1839–date, 176 f.b.

Estates and guardianships are filed together, alphabetically.

Index to Estates, 1889–date, 1 v.

Name of estate, of administrator or executor, date of reports, etc. are indexed.

DOCKETS AND FEE BOOKS

Probate Docket, 1879–date, 10 v. (C–L)

Guardians' Estate Docket, 1873–date, 1 v. (A), labeled "Ledger of Guardians."

Probate Estate Ledger, 1881–date, 4 v. (B–E); 1859, 1 v., unlabeled.

The headings are names of estate, administrator, widow and heirs; date of death; date of bonds and letters of administration; list of claims allowed; date and amount of inventories, etc.

Estate Docket, 1859–1893, 1 v., unlabeled.

Probate Estate Docket and Ledger, 1872–1879, 1 v. (A)

Judgment Docket, 1859–1871, 1 v. (A)

This is a probate judgment docket.

Probate Judgment Docket, 1871–date, 6 v. (B–G)

The contents include name of claimant and of estate, date, nature of claim and amount, and order of court thereon.

Probate Fee Book, 1869–date, 7 v. (A–G)

RECORDS OF WILLS, BONDS, AND LETTERS

Record of Wills, 1852–date, 7 v. (A–G)

Administrators' Record, 1852–date, 5 v. (A–E)

Record of Executors' Bonds and Letters, 1859–1868, 1 v.

Executors' Record, 1872–1897, 1904–date, 3 v. (B, C, E)

The executors' record, 1897–1904, was combined with the will record in 1 v., "Will & Executors' Record, D."

Executors' and Guardians' Record, 1868–1876, 1 v. (A)

Conservators' Record, 1906–date, 2 v. (B–C)

Bond, oath, and letters of conservator are recorded. The volume is labeled "Insanity & Conservators' Record."

Guardians' Record, 1856–date, 3 v. (A–C)

Record of Miscellaneous Bonds and Letters, 1878–date, 2 v. (A–B)

The volumes contain a record of bonds and letters of administrators de bonis non, and administrators with will annexed.

INVENTORIES, APPRAISEMENTS, AND SALE BILLS

Inventory, Appraisement, and Sale Record, 1859-1870, 1 v. (A)

The volume contains appraisements only.

Inventory and Appraisement Record, 1882-date.

This is a manuscript record of documents too long for the ordinary printed form.

Inventory Record, 1875–date, 5 v. (A–E)

Guardians' Inventory Record, 1879–date, 1 v. (B)

Appraisement Record, 1873–date, 4 v. (A–D)

Sale Bill Record, 1874–date, 3 v. (A–C)

REPORT RECORDS, ETC.

Report Record, 1871–date, 7 v. (A–H)

Guardians' Report Record, 1889–date, 2 v. (E, G)

The record contains name of guardian, claims against estate, accounts of settlement of claims, etc. by guardian, and date of settlement.

Insolvent Estate Record, 1879–date, 1 v.

Widows' Relinquishment and Selection Record, 1875–date, 1 v.

Real Estate Sale Record, 1869–date, 4 v. (A–D)

This form includes record of petition to sell real estate to pay debts, decree of court thereon and report of sale. Volume A is labeled "Probate Record A."

Record of Proceedings on Guardians' Petitions for Sale of Real Estate, 1877, 1 v.

The volume is blank after p. 7. It contains applications by guardians for permission to sell, and record of sale.

Miscellaneous Record, 1873–date, 2 v. (A–B)

These are miscellaneous records (probate) for which there are no forms provided.

Clerk of the Circuit Court

CIRCUIT COURT RECORDS

Chancery Record, 1841–date, 15 v. (A–O)

Circuit Court Record (common law and criminal), 1839–date, 12 v. (A–L)

Volume F, 1873–1880, is missing.

Circuit Court Files: Chancery, 1840–date, 167 f.b.; Common Law, 1839–date, 68 f.b.; Criminal, 1839–date, 13 f.b.

Current files are kept in steel drawers in a steel case.

Naturalization Record: Declaration of Intention, 1856–1899, 1 v.; Final Certificate, 1859–1897, 1 v.; Soldiers and Minors, 1868–1896, 1 v.

DOCKETS, FEE BOOKS, ETC.

Judgment Docket, 1839–date, 4 v. (A–D)

Execution Docket, 1839–date, 3 v. (A–C)

Fee Book, 1840–date, 18 v.

Justice of the Peace Transcript Record, 1884–date, 3 v. (C–E)

Circuit Clerk—Recorder

Entry Book, 1822–date, 11 v.

Transcribed Deed and Mortgage Record, 1822–1839, 3 v. (A–C)

These records were transcribed from Greene county records.

Deed and Mortgage Record, 1839–date, 123 v. (1–123)

Since 1857, deeds, mortgages, chattel mortgages, releases, etc. have been kept in separate volumes and labeled accordingly, though the volumes are numbered consecutively and kept in one series. Prior to 1850 all documents were recorded together.

General Index, 1822–date, 11 v. each for grantor and grantee.

Index to Marginal Releases and Assignments, 1905–date, 1 v. (1)

Record of Certificates of Levy, Sale, and Redemption, 1840–date, 5 v.

Surveyors' Record, 1838–1850, 1 v.; 1885–date, 1 v. (A)

The 1838–1850 volume is 6 x 8 inches and is not labeled.

Stallion Register; 1910–date, 1 v.

City of Jerseyville, Record of City Council, 1867–1892, 2 v.

JO DAVIESS COUNTY[1]

Jo Daviess county was set off in 1827 from Putnam, Henry, and Mercer counties; the county seat is Galena. The courthouse was erected in 1839 of brick and stone with wooden floors and lath and plaster interior walls. Needless to say, it is not fireproof. The vaults are of masonry, two feet thick, with double steel doors. The floor is concrete and the ceiling is masonry or concrete laid between railroad irons. Wooden shelves and tin filingboxes are used. In the county clerk's vault, which is badly overcrowded, books stand on end.

County Clerk

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' AND SUPERVISORS' RECORDS

County Commissioners' Court Record, June, 1827–August, 1832, 1 v.

The volume contains a record of apprentices; of county orders issued, emancipations (p. 150); ferry and tavern licenses; rates, etc.; jury lists; specifications for jail; record of roads; tax rates on property; appointment of election officers and designation of precincts. The record contains 230 p.

County Commissioners' Court Record, August, 1829–August, 1838, 1 v. (575 p.)

The volume records orders on treasurer; licenses and rates for taverns, ferries, etc.; boundaries of road districts; appointment of road supervisors and viewers; abstracts of receipts and expenditures e.g., 1834, receipts $2,170.88, expenditures, $2,038.43.

County Commissioners' Papers, 1828–1858, 7 f.b.

The papers include warrants on treasurer, petitions for roads and ferries, reports of road viewers on condition of roads, etc.

Supervisors' Papers, 1858–date, 27 f.b., in vault.

Reports and Diagrams of Roads, 1841–1845, 1 f.b. (23)

The contents include petitions for roads, reports of road viewers, and plats of roads.

Road Papers, Petitions, etc., 4 f.b.

[1] Examined January, 1912.

Index to Roads, c. 1828–1883.

This index gives name or description of road and refers to the box in vault which contains the original petitions and plats.

"County Commissioners' Account Book," June, 1828–December, 1849, 1 v.

The book records: "Accounts of fines and money received by the Treasurer, Sheriff, and Constables of Jo. Daviess County, Illinois."

License Record, 1850–1905, 2 v. (A–B), not indexed.

This is a record of grocery, ferry, tavern, dramshop, and other licenses, giving name of person and residence, date of license and amount of fee, and also date of expiration.

Treasurers' Register of County Orders Paid, 1845–1858, 2 v., the first labeled "Records"; 1890–date, 2 v.

COUNTY COURT RECORDS

County Court Record, 1872–date, 9 v.

Adoption and Indenture Papers, 1840–1885, 1 f.b. (179)

Schedules of Insolvent Debtors, 1842–1858, 2 f.b. (13, 22)

Insanity Record, 1886–date, 2 v. (A–B)

Naturalization Record: Declaration of Intention, 1903–1906, 1 v.; Minors, 1904–1906, 1 v.

Judgment Docket, 1872–date, 1 v. (1)

Execution Docket, 1872–date, 1 v. (1)

Docket of Official Bonds (county officers), 1870–1875, 1 v. (A)

Fee Book (probate, common law, and criminal,) 1872–1896, 4 v.

TAXATION RECORDS

Abstract of Assessment and Taxes, 1871–date, 1 v. (B)

Assessment and Statement of Taxes, 1871–date.

Land Entry Book, 1843–c. 1853, 1 v.

The form includes date of entry, patentee, description and amount of land.

Entries of Conveyances, 1855–1873, 1 v.

"School Districts," 1847–1852, 1 v.

A description of the boundaries of each district is given.

School District Plats, 1860–1885, 1 v.; 1893–date, 1 v.

School Plats, Incorporations, Naturalizations, 1 v., not indexed.

This is a record of naturalization of discharged soldiers, 1884–1903; school plats, 1855–1859; record of elections for incorporation of towns ot

Warren (1857), Elizabeth (1868), Apple River (1870), giving names of officers elected and poll list.

Docket of Rates and Amounts Wanted, 1876–1898, 2 v. (A–B)

Railroad Schedules of Value, 1872–date.

Assessors' Books and Collectors' Books, 1839–1849, on top shelf of the old vault.

Assessors' Books, 1850–date, in vault.

Collectors' Books, 1851–date, in vault.

Railroad Tax Book, 1873–date, 1 v.

Delinquent Tax Record[?], 1843–1848, 1 v.

The volume is labeled: "Records—Taxes"; it is in the circuit clerk's vault.

"Forfeited Tax Accounts," 1859–1875, 1 v.

Tax Judgment Record, 1868–1875, 1 v. (B)

Tax Judgment Record, 1857–1880, 4 v.

Tax Sale Record, 1858–1880, 3 v. (C–E)

Tax Forfeiture Record, 1861–1880, 2 v.

Abatement and Forfeiture Record, 1873–1885, 1 v.

Tax Judgment, Sale, Redemption, and Forfeiture Record, 1881–date, 5 v.

Record of Affidavits for Tax Deeds, 1869–date, 3 v. (B–D)

Receipts by County Collector, 1872–1890, 1 v. (1); 1903–date, 1 v. (3)

The volumes contain memoranda of taxes received from the various town collectors.

Record of Collectors' Accounts with Treasurer, 1855–1857, 1 v. ("Day Book"); 1858–date, 6 v.

Record of Collectors' Accounts with Towns, 1882–date, 5 v.

The accounts specify the amount of taxes collected from towns, giving amount of town tax, road and bridge tax, dog tax, corporation tax, school tax, etc.

Town Accounts with Treasurer, 1862–1880; Treasurers' Accounts, 1845–1857, 1 v.

RECORDS OF VITAL STATISTICS

Marriage License Record, June, 1833–date, 13 v.

Names of parties, date of license, certificate of marriage by the person officiating, and the date are recorded.

Register of Marriages, 1877–1888, 1 v.

Board of health form is used.

Marriage Licenses, 1828–date.

These are filed in pigeonholes in old vault.

Register of Births, 1878–date, 4 v. (1–4)

Register of Deaths, 1878–date, 3 v. (1–3)

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Abstracts of Votes, 1880–1908, 2 f.b. (526, 582)

Poll Books and Tally Sheets, 1850–date.

These are piled on top of filingboxes, and on top of shelves of old vault.

Assessors' Bond Record, 1899–date, 1 v. (A)

"Justices & Constables' Book," December, 1847–April, 1860, 2 v.

These are records of elections of justices and constables.

Lists of Town Officers Elected, 1870–1883, 1 v.

Militia Rolls, 1861–1863, 1 f.b. (194)

Record of Volunteers, 1861–1862, 1 v.

The volume records date of enlistment; name, age, nativity, occupation; where enlisted; parents' names (when given); remarks as to service rendered, etc.

Stock Marks [Record of Marks and Brands], January, 1831–April, 1905, 1 v.

There are but 25 p. in the volume.

Estray Record, 1849–1862, 1 v. (A), not indexed; 1862–1906, 1 v. (B)

Swamp Land Record, 1853–1855, 1 v.

The volume contains list and plats of swamp lands in county with remarks as to kind of land and its value; also list of lands sold, giving name of purchaser, location and description of lands, amount and value of land, and date of sale.

School Commissioners' Reports, 1840–1853, 2 f.b. (87, 96)

These are reports of land sold and money invested.

County Clerk—Probate

PROBATE COURT RECORDS

Probate Court Record, July, 1828–November, 1839, 1 v. (128 p.), labeled: "Probate Court Book A";[1] 1839–1849, 1 v., "Probate Record B."

[1]In the appraisement bill of estate of Abner Field, Esq., probate judge of Jo Daviess county until his death in 1830, is this entry: "A negro woman named Chevey $36.00"; the total amount of his personal property was $270.00. Probate court book, A: 51.

The volumes contain orders and decrees; full copies of administrators', executors', and guardians' letters and bonds; wills, inventories, appraisements, sale bills; petitions for pensions from United States government; apprenticeship indentures, etc.

Probate Court Record, December, 1849–date, 8 v. (A–H)

County Court Record, 1873–date, 18 v. (J–Z, and 1)

These are records of proceedings and transactions of the court; up to about 1858 letters of administration and letters testamentary are included in this record also. There are also reports of sales, and allowances of claims by the court; and petitions to sell real estate. This series contains "insanity cases," adoptions, naturalizations and even county court records.

DOCKETS AND FEE BOOKS

Probate Judgment Docket, December, 1849–July, 1851, 1 v.

The volume is on top shelf in vault and labeled "Records."

Probate Judgment Docket, 1857–1890, 3 v. (A–C)

The contents include name of claimant, amount of claim, name of estate, and judgment of court.

Probate Judgment and Accounts Probate, November, 1900–date, 2 v. (F–G)

Name of claimant, amount of claim, and date are given.

Docket of Official Bonds, 1860–1875, 1 v. (A)

This is a docket of probate bonds, including amount, date, and names of sureties.

RECORDS OF WILLS, BONDS, AND LETTERS

"Record of Wills—Book A," September, 1831–April, 1847, 1 v.

The volume contains 102 p. Both covers are off and pp. 1–22 are detached from the rest of volume; pp. 21–22 are torn out and lower half is missing.

Record of Wills, January, 1850–date, 11 v. (A–K)

Administrators' Record, April, 1858–date, 5 v. (A–E)

Executors' Record, March, 1860–date, 6 v. (A–F)

Volume A, labeled "Executors and Guardians Record," contains guardians' record, 1859–1872.

Conservators' Record, 1886–date, 1 v. (1)

Guardians' Record, 1872–date, 3 v. (B–D)

Administrators' Record (will annexed), 1895–date, 1 v.

Record of Miscellaneous Bonds and Letters, 1877–date, 1 v.

The volume contains bonds and letters of administrators de bonis non, and administrators with will annexed.

INVENTORIES, APPRAISEMENTS, SALE BILLS, ETC.

Inventory and Sale Bill Record, 1 v. (A)
Inventory, 1859–1870; sale bill, 1859–1872.

Appraisement Record, 1858–date, 5 v. (A–E)
The form includes record of allowance to widow.

Inventory Record, April, 1870–date, 6 v. (B–H)
Guardians' Inventory Record, 1872–date, 1 v. (1)
Sale Record (personal property), 1872–date, 1 v. (B)
Report Record, 1872–date, 13 v. (A–M)
This series contains reports of administrators, executors, and guardians.

"Accounts Probated," May, 1845–October, 1900, 5 v. (A–E)
Widows' Selection Record, 1910–date, 1 v. (1)
This was formerly kept with the appraisement records.

Clerk of the Circuit Court

CIRCUIT COURT RECORDS

Circuit Court Record, June, 1828–date, 39 v.
Common law, chancery, and criminal records were kept together up to 1898; after that date the criminal record is separate from the common law and chancery. Naturalization records prior to 1856 are found in the circuit court record.

Recognizance Record, 1870–1906, 1 v. (A)
Vacation Record and Fee Book, 1861–date, 2 v.
The volumes contain confessions of judgment made during vacation, and the corresponding fee bills.

Index to Court Records, 1858–date, 2 v. each for plaintiff and defendant.
Circuit Court Files, 1828–date.
Naturalization Record: Declaration of Intention, 1856–1904, 4 v. (A–D); Discharged Soldiers, 1860–1888, 1 v. (A); Final Certificate, March, 1857–February, 1879, 2 v. (A–B); Minors, 1879–1902, 1 v. (C)

DOCKETS AND FEE BOOKS

Court Docket, 1857–1909, 26 v.
The contents give name of attorney; names of parties, kind of action; process; remarks of court. Since 1909 the dockets are loose leaf with a

leaf for each case, which is transferred to a "Transfer Docket" when the case is finished.

Judgment Docket, 1835–1836, 1 v.; 1838–date, 7 v. (A–G)

Execution Docket, 1829–1832, 1 v.; 1838–date, 6 v. (A–F)

Executions, 1828–date.

Part of these are filed in bundles on a shelf in front vault; part are in filingboxes; and current files are in drawers in rear vault.

Fee Book, 1835–1837, 1841–date, 15 v.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Transcript Record, 1847–date, 3 v. (A–C)

This is a record of transcripts from justices of the peace and from foreign courts.

States Attorneys' Report Record, 1873–date, 1 v. (1)

This is a record of reports of fees and fines collected.

County Court Record, May, 1845–January, 1850, 2 v. (A–B)

The records contain common law, chancery, and criminal proceedings. The two volumes are in circuit clerk's vault and are labeled "Records."

Circuit Clerk—Recorder

DEED AND MORTGAGE RECORDS

Entry Book, 1836–1849, 5 v.; 1856–date, 10 v.

Deed Record, June, 1828–date, 90 v.

In the early volumes are such things as powers of attorney, Negro freedom papers, bonds, bills of sale for Negroes (e.g. book A, pp. 54, 120) and (till 1842) mortgages.

Mortgage Record, 1842–date, 73 v.

Chattel mortgages are kept in same series with mortgages and up to 1870 were recorded in same volumes.

Preëmption of Lots in Galena, 1 v. (379 p.)

This volume is a record of "Proceedings of a board of commissioners appointed under the Act of Congress of 5th of February, 1829, amended by an act approved July 2, 1836, for the survey of the town of Galena, in the state of Illinois, and for the adjustment of the titles to the lots in the said town. David Wann, Samuel Leech, and John Turney, commissioners." The large number of squatters with claims to preëmption rights necessitated this action.

Plat Record, 1837–date, 3 v.

General Index, 1828–date, 13 v. (A–M) each for grantor and grantee.

Index to Marginal Releases and Assignments, 1904–date, 1 v. (1)

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Certificates of Levy, Sale, and Redemption Record, 1841–date, 4 v. (A, A–C)

Incorporation Record, 1908–date, 1 v. (A)

Certificates of Election of Trustees Record, 1875–date, 1 v. (A)

Certificates of election of trustees of lodges, societies, churches, etc. are recorded.

Record of United States Surveys, 1860, 1 v.

Collectors' Bond Record, 1853–date, 4 v. (A–D)

Stallion Register, 1910–date, 1 v.; Renewals, 1911–date, 1 v.

Lead Ledger, 1832–1837, 1 v.

The ledger records amount of lead mined and smelted, price of lead, etc.

One small volume about eight by eight inches, unlabeled, in the circuit clerk's vault (north side).

This book contains records of a meeting of the settlers of T. 28 N., R. 2 E., January, 1847, to create a board of arbitrators to settle disputes arising over claims. It also contains a record of one hundred and sixty disputes settled by the arbitrators.

One volume lettered "A," unlabeled.

It is a record kept by the superintendent of the mines, containing the record of permits given by the superintendent of the mines to build cabins on land, or to cultivate lands, May, 1825–August, 1826; surveys of mineral lands, May, 1825–May, 1826; account of amount of lead mined and smelted; account of receipts and expenditures of the lead mines; copy of the regulations for miners with names of miners who signed the agreement, 1826–1833; record of leases and of bonds.

One volume, paper bound, of about 150 pages.

This is the record book of the assistant superintendent, Thomas McKnight, being a record of letters, permits, leases, etc., November, 1826–November, 1827. In the back of this volume is a copy of regulations for miners and for smelters.

One volume labeled "Regulations."

It contains a copy of the regulations which miners were required to sign, dated April, 1833, with a list of signatures. The regulations as amended in 1840 are also recorded and the signatures of miners subsequent to 1840 then follow. There are also rules for the government of arbitrations.

"Plats of School Lands" sold by commissioners, 1844–1856.

Name of purchaser, amount and price of land, date of sale, location and description of land are recorded.

JOHNSON COUNTY[1]

Johnson county was set off from Randolph in 1812; the county seat is Vienna. At the time Johnson county was visited the county board was about to spend $10,000 on improvements to the courthouse and record rooms. A detailed account of the crowded conditions encountered would probably, therefore, be incorrect.

County Clerk

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' AND SUPERVISORS' RECORDS

County Commissioners' Record, June, 1813–October, 1817, 1 folio (A); March, 1818–June, 1828, 1 folio (B)

The first folio contains 108 p., the second 152 p.

County Court Record, 1851–1872, 2 v.

County Commissioners' Court Record, 1872–date, 6 v.

Road Record, 1907–date, 1 v. (1)

The volume records road supervisors' reports of amount of money received and spent on roads, amount of work done on roads, etc.

Record of the Court of Common Pleas, March, 1813–March, 1814, 1 v.; October, 1814–December, 1819, 1 v.

The records are very full, including abstracts of the evidence in each case. Both volumes are 8 x 13 inches, labeled "Court Record."

COUNTY COURT RECORDS

County Court Record, 1872–date: Common Law, 1 v. (A); Criminal, 4 v. (A–D)

Insane and Conservators' Record, 1888–1892, 1 v. (1)

Records of findings of insanity jury and record of bond and letters of conservator are given.

Insanity Record, 1893–date, 1 v. (A)

County Court Files (common law and criminal), 1872–date.

Some of these folios are in filingboxes, some on top of shelves with other papers.

Judges' Docket, 1872–date, 8 v. (A–H)

[1] Examined May, 1912.

Insanity Docket, 1893–date, 1 v. (A)

County Court Fee Book: Common Law, 1872–date, 4 v. (A–D); Criminal, 1872–date, 7 v. (1–7); Insanity, 1894–date, 1 v. (A)

TAXATION RECORDS

Abstract of Assessment and Taxes, 1876–date, 4 v.

Statements of the totals of the footings of the columns of assessors' books, and a grand summary of property in the county are recorded.

Docket of Rates and Amounts Wanted, 1878–1894, 1 v.

Entry Book of Lands, 1818–1896, 1 v.

The headings are name of patentee; date; amount and value of land; and its location.

Railroad Tax Schedules, 1905–date, 3 drawers in office.

Assessors' Books, 1853–1859, 1861, 1863, 1865, 1867, 1870, 1872, 1899–date.

Collectors' Books, 1855, 1856, 1857, 1858–1867, 1905–date.

Other assessors' and collectors' books are piled under stairway in hall.

Railroad Tax Book, 1885–1902, 3 v.

Board of Review Record, 1899–date, 1 v. (1)

Board of Review Complaint Docket, 1899–date, 1 v. (1)

Tax Judgment Record, 1873–1880, 2 v. (B–C)

Tax Sale and Redemption Record, 1858–1872, 1 v.

Record of Forfeited Lands, 1872–1879, 2 v. (A–B)

Tax Judgment, Sale, Redemption, and Forfeiture Record, 1880–date, 10 v.

Record of Affidavits for Tax Deeds, 1878–date, 4 v. (A–D)

RECORDS OF VITAL STATISTICS

Marriage Record, February, 1835–January, 1858, 1 v.

For the years 1835–1841, the volume contains a copy of license and certificate of marriage; for 1841–1858, certificate of marriage only. The volume is leather bound, 8 x 13 inches.

Marriage License Record, 1857–date, 10 v.

The record contains a copy of license and certificate giving names, dates, ages, etc.

Register of Marriages, 1878–date, 2 v. (1–2); Index (by male and female), 2 v.

Record of Applications for Marriage License, 1905–date, 2 v. (1–2)

Register of Births, 1878–date, 3 v. (1–3); Index, 2 v.

Register of Deaths, 1878–date, 2 v. (1–2); Index, 1 v.

Birth Reports and Death Reports, 1878–date; Marriage Licenses, 1878–date.

These are stored in various places; in boxes, in pigeonholes, and on shelves.

Record of Physicians' Certificates, 1878–date, 2 v. (1–2)

Register of Physicians and Accoucheurs, 1878–date, 1 v. (1)

Register of Dentists, 1878–date, 1 v. (1)

Record of Certificates of Midwives, 1878–date, 1 v. (1)

Tabular Schedules of Agricultural Statistics, 1878–1900, one folio for each township, each year, in cupboard.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Register of Commissions, 1855–date, 1 v.

Justices' and Constables' Bond Record, 1877–1884, 1 v. (A)

School Land Record, 1850–1855, 1 v.

This is a record of school lands and plats.

Swamp Land Record, c. 1855, 1 v.

This is a list of swamp lands, giving location and remarks as to kind and value.

County Clerk—Probate

PROBATE COURT RECORDS

Probate Court Record, August, 1820–April, 1847, 1 v.

The volume is labeled "Journal." It contains 465 p. and is indexed.

Probate Court Record, June, 1855–1859, 2 v.

Probate Court Journal, 1860–date, 11 v. (B–L)

Probate Files (estate papers and guardianship papers, etc.), c. 1850–date, 202 f.b. and p.h.; Index, 1 v.

These files are arranged alphabetically; some are in tin filingboxes, but the greater part are in pigeonholes.

DOCKETS AND FEE BOOKS

Probate Judges' Docket, 1857–date, 10 v. (1, A–I)

Probate Judgment Docket, 1866–date, 7 v. (B–E, 1–3)

The headings are name of claimant and of estate, amount and nature of claim, date, and order of court.

Probate Estate Docket, March, 1874, 1 v.; September, 1897–March, 1898, 1 v.

The headings are as follows: name of estate and of administrator; date of letters; date and amount of bond; names of widow and heirs; date and amount of sale bills, etc.; remarks.

Probate Fee Book, 1859–date, 9 v.

RECORDS OF WILLS, BONDS, AND LETTERS

Record of Wills, 1870–date, 2 v. (A–B)

Administrators' Record, 1861–date, 6 v. (A–F)

Executors' and Guardians' Record, 1860–1883, 1 v. (A)

The records include executors' bonds and letters, 1860–1883; guardians' bonds and letters, 1860–1873.

Executors' Record, 1900–date, 1 v. (B)

Conservators' Record, 1893–date, 1 v. (A)

Guardians' Record, 1873–date, 4 v. (B–E)

Miscellaneous Bond Record, 1878–1892, 1 v. (A)

Official Bond Record, 1881–date, 2 v. (1–2)

INVENTORIES, APPRAISEMENTS, AND SALE BILLS

Inventory, Appraisement, and Sale Bill Record, 1859–1873, 2 v. (A–B)

Inventory Record, 1873–date, 1 v. (C)

From 1885 to 1905, inventories were not recorded and were merely filed.

Appraisement Record, 1873–date, 2 v. (B–C)

Sale Bill Record, 1873–1885, 1 v. (4)

From 1885 to 1912, sale bills were not recorded, but were filed with estate papers.

REPORT RECORDS, ETC.

Report Record, 1878–1892, 2 v. (A–B)

Administrators', executors', and guardians' reports are included.

Guardians' Report Record, 1885–date, 4 v. (C–F)

Administrators' Report Record, 1895–date, 3 v. (A–C)

Record of Accounts Current, 1857–1868, 1 v. (A)

Current accounts of administrators, etc., with estates, showing money received and paid out are recorded.

Guardians' Ledger, 1870–1902, 2 v. (A–B)

For 1872–1880, v. B contains the record of the guardian's accounts with his ward; 1880–1902, it also contains reports of sales of real estate to pay debts.

Insolvent Estate Record, 1879–date, 1 v. (A)

Widows' Relinquishment and Selection Record, 1895–1900, 1 v. (A)

Widows' Award and Selection Record, 1910–date, 1 v.

Clerk of the Circuit Court

CIRCUIT COURT RECORDS

Circuit Court Record, December, 1819–October, 1828, 1 v. (242 p., 8 x 14 inches); March, 1836–December, 1860, 3 v.; 1861–1879, 3 v.

Chancery Record, 1879–date, 12 v. (D–O)

Criminal Record, 1879–date, 3 v. (D–F)

Common Law Record, 1879–date, 4 v. (D–G)

Circuit Court Files, 1814–date; Index, 1 v.

There are no filingboxes; the papers are arranged on 8 inch shelves which have partitions every 12 inches. Up to 1890 the papers are shelved chronologically, common law, chancery, and criminal papers being kept together. After 1890 the papers are separated but are still arranged chronologically.

Index to Court Records, 1858–date, 2 v. each for plaintiff and defendant.

Naturalization Record, 1 v.

The record contains declarations of intention and certificates of naturalization. There are only three entries, dated 1870, 1889, and 1896.

DOCKETS, FEE BOOKS, ETC.

Judges' Docket, May, 1813–May, 1834, 1 v.; April, 1851–April, 1855, 1 v.; March, 1858–March, 1859, 1 v.

These are 8 x 13 inches, without labels; one volume has no binding.

Judges' Docket, 1843–date, 15 v. (1–2, A–M)

Judgment Docket, 1860–date, 2 v. (A–B)

Execution Docket, 1818–1828, 1 v.; 1837–1859, 1 v. (8 x 13 inches), not labeled; 1860–date, 2 v. (A–B)

Circuit Court Fee Book, 1814–1838, 1 v. (6 x 8 inches), not labeled; 1836–1855, 1 v. (8 x 13 inches), not labeled; 1862–1865, 1 v. (8 x 13 inches), not labeled; 1860–date, 16 v.

Justice of the Peace Transcript Record, 1870–date, 1 v. (A)

States Attorneys' Report Record, 1873–date, 1 v. (1)

Circuit Clerk—Recorder

DEED AND MORTGAGE RECORDS

Entry Book, 1867–date, 3 v. (A–C)

Deed Record, 1815–date, 64 v. (1–64)

Up to 1861 the deed record contains deeds, mortgages, bills of sale, etc.

Mortgage Record, 1861–date, 32 v. (1–32)

Plat Book, 1887–date, 1 v.

The volume is 18 x 36 inches.

Release Record, 1901–date, 2 v. (A–B)

General Index, 1815–date, 6 v. each for grantor and grantee.

Index to Marginal Releases and Assignments, 1905–date, 1 v. (1)

Chattel Mortgage Record, 1865–date, 19 v.; Index, 1 v.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Record of Sheriffs' Certificates of Levy and Sale, August, 1842–date, 2 v.

Record of Powers of Attorney and Bonds for Deeds, 1892–date, 1 v. (A)

Surveyors' Record, 1864–date, 2 v.

Record of United States Surveys, c. 1870, 1 v.

Description and location by plats of corners and lines of sections and quarter sections are recorded.

Stallion Register, 1910–date, 1 v. (A); Renewals, 1911–date, 1 v.

KANE COUNTY[1]

Kane county was organized in 1836 from territory attached to La Salle; the county seat is Geneva. The county has a separate probate clerk and a separate recorder. The courthouse was burned in 1892, no records being lost except the tax books prior to 1880, which were not in the vault. The present courthouse is fireproof, and equipped with modern vaults.

County Clerk

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' AND SUPERVISORS' RECORDS

County Commissioners' Court Record, 1836–1849, 3 v. (A–C), bound in one.

This is an order book relating to roads and other county business, and containing lists of jurors and county orders, licenses, record of provision for poor, etc.

County Court Record, January–April, 1850, 1 v.

Only 35 p. are used.

Supervisors' Record, June, 1850–date, 13 v. (1–13)

Record of Road Surveys, 1841–1848, 1 v.

This contains a record of plats and notes.

Commissioners' Papers, 1836–1850, in cupboards 15 and 17.

Supervisors' Papers, 1850–date.

The papers are in cupboard in vault, except those for the last two years which are in filingboxes.

Road Petitions and Reports, 1836–date, in cupboard 17.

Courthouse and Jail Papers, 1836, 1856, 1892, 1 f.b. (267)

"County Orders," 1836–1852, 1 v.

This is a register with headings for name, amount. and purpose of order.

Register of County Orders, 1850–date, 8 v. (A–H)

Jury List, 1872–date, 3 v.

[1] Examined January, 1912.

COUNTY COURT RECORDS

County Court Record, 1872–date, 8 v. (A–D, 1–4)
County Court Record (defaults), 1890–date, 1 v. (1)
County Court Files (common law and criminal), 1872–date, 59 f.b.
Index to Court Records, 1872–1878, 1 v. each for plaintiff and defendant; 1886–date, 1 v. each.

The first index was discontinued in 1878. In 1886 a plaintiff's and defendant's index was begun which has been continued to the present time.

Adoption Record, 1898–date, 2 v. (1–2)
Juvenile Court Record, 1906–date, 1 v. (1)

This is a record of court action in cases of dependent and delinquent children.

Insanity Record, 1884–date, 5 v.
Insanity, Adoption, Insolvency, Juvenile Files, 96 f.b.

These four kinds of papers are filed together. It is difficult to determine the dates but apparently all papers are extant. The insanity papers date back to 1850 or thereabouts.

Index to files in vault, 1 v., entitled "Index to Documents."
Index to Insanity, Juvenile, and Adoption Cases, 1 v.
Naturalization Record, 1872–1906, 8 v.
Naturalization Papers, 1872–1906, 2 f.b.
County Court Docket, 1872–date, 13 v.
Common Law Register, 1886–date, 1 v.

The form has headings for date of case, general number of case, parties and action.

Judgment Docket, 1872–date, 2 v.
Execution Docket, 1872–date, 1 v.
Juvenile Court Docket, 1906–date, 1 v. (1)
Insanity Docket, 1892–date, 2 v.
Naturalization Docket, 1872–1906, 2 v.
Fee Book, 1872–date, 7 v.

TAXATION RECORDS

Abstract of Assessment and Taxes, 1873–1891, 1 v.
Statement of Assessments, 1858–date, in cupboards 15 and 22.
School District Plat Book, 1862–date, 1 v.
Entries of Conveyances (lands), 1872–1873, 1 v. (1)
Entries of Conveyances (lots), 1872–1873, 1 v. (1)

Land Entry Book, c. 1839–1855, 1 v.

Railroad Schedules of Value, 1858–date, in cupboards 15 and 22.

"Assessment Book, 1848," 1 v.

The volume covers the personal property of whole county, the total value of which was $610,225.00.

"Assessors' Book, Kane County, 1844."

The volume includes both real and personal property.

"Assessors' Book, Aurora, 1850."

Includes both real and personal property assessments.

Assessors' Books (real and personal property), Elgin, 1860, 1868, 1869, 1870, 1871, 1873, 1874, 1876, 1877, 1879, 1880.

Assessors' Books (real and personal property), Geneva, 1861, 1864, 1865, 1868.

Assessors' Books 1881–date, and Collectors' Books, 1881–date.

Railroad Tax Book, 1873–1908, 4 v.; 1909–date, 1 v. for each township.

Board of Review: Oaths of Members, 1899–date; Appointment of Members, 1899–1901; Resignations of Members, 1903–date, 1 f.b. (299)

Delinquent Tax List, 1850–1853, 2 v.

Tax Judgment Record, 1851–1880, 7 v. (1, A–F)

Tax Sale Record, 1850–1880, 8 v. (A–H)

Tax Forfeiture Record, 1872–1880, 3 v.

Tax Judgment, Sale, Redemption, and Forfeiture Record, 1881–date, 29 v.

Tax Sale Certificates, 1858–1896, in cupboard 15; 1896–date, 12 f.b.

Record of Affidavits for Tax Deeds, 1857–1860, 1 v.; 1872–date, 6 v. (A, 1–5)

Affidavits for Tax Deeds, 1858–1898, in cupboard in vault; 1899–date, 2 f.b.

Treasurers' Accounts with County, 1850–1858, 1 v.

Inheritance Tax Record, 1902–date, 1 v. (1)

RECORDS OF VITAL STATISTICS

Marriage Record, 1836–1864, 5 v. (A–E)

Volumes D and E are indexed by males. The form registers names of parties, dates, and name of officer.

Marriage Register, 1836–1877, 2 v. (A–B) each for male and female.

The headings of the register are date and number of license, names of parties, date married, name of person officiating, date registered, and number of box in which license is filed. The entries in each volume are arranged alphabetically.

Register of Marriages, 1877–date, 7 v. (1–7); Index, 2 v. each for male and female.

The board of health form is used.

Register of Marriage Licenses Issued, 1904–date, 2 v.

Number of license and date, names and ages of parties, and name of person officiating are registered.

Marriage Licenses and Affidavits, 1836–date, 65 f.b.

Register of Births, 1877–date, 13 v. (1–13); Index, 2 v. (1–2)

Register of Still Births, 1877–1901, 1 v. (A); 1902–date, 1 v. (1); Index, 1 v.

Register of Deaths, 1877–date, 10 v. (1–10); Index, 2 v.

Birth Reports, 1877–date, 48 f.b.

Death Reports, 1878–date, 24 f.b.

Record of Certificates of Veterinary Surgeons, 1899–date, 1 v.

Record of Physicians' Certificates, 1877–date, 2 v.

Register of Dentists, 1877–date, 1 v.

Record of Certificates of Registered Nurses, 1909–date, 1 v. (1)

Register of Physicians and Accoucheurs, 1877–date, 1 v.

Record of Architects' Licenses, 1898–date, 1 v.

Agricultural Statistics, 1882–1890, 2 v.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Record of Incorporated Towns, 1845–1859, 1 v.

This is a record of elections held and names of officers chosen.

Appointment of Judges of Election, 1899–date, 1 f.b.

Primary Election Petitions, 1910–date, 1 f.b.

Assessors' Bond Record, 1899–date, 2 v.

Justices' and Constables' Bonds, 1836–1884, in cupboard 15; 1885–date, 2 f.b.

Register of Justices and Town Officers, 1836–1857, 1 v.

Register of County Officers, 1836–1887, 1 v.

Register of Notaries' Commissions, 1867–date, 4 v. (1–4)

Patent Record, 1869–1873, 1 v.

Militia Roll Record, 1861–1862, 1 v. (A)

Militia Rolls and Bounty Certificates, c. 1861–1865, in cupboard 12.

Record of Estrays, 1847–1902, 1 v. (A–B)

Register of Receipts and Expenditures, of county clerk, 1874–date, 3 v. (A–C)

Swamp Land Record, 1857, 1 v.

Only 12 p. have been used. The volume contains abstracts of swamp lands in the county as returned to auditor by county surveyor, giving location and description and remarks as to value for cultivation, etc.

School Commissioners' Record, 1841–1843, 1 v.

This is a record of loans of school money; in back of volume is a record of the distribution of school money among townships, 1850–1852.

Sheriffs' Fee Bill Docket, 1836–1839, 1 v.

This is an unlabeled volume, eight by ten inches in size, with cardboard back.

Clerk of the Probate Court

PROBATE COURT RECORDS

Probate Record, 1837–date, 53 v. (1–53)

Up to about 1860 this record contained all probate matter: wills, letters of administration and letters testamentary, inventories, sale bills, reports, etc.

Probate Judgment Record, 1865–date, 15 v. (1–15)

The contents are records of proceedings of court on claims against estates.

Probate Files, 1837–date, 524 f.b.

All probate papers are filed together chronologically, but are not numbered.

Index to Estates, 2 v.

Name, number of box in which papers are filed, name of guardian, administrator, or executor, and date of letters are given.

DOCKETS AND FEE BOOKS

Probate Judges' Docket, 1857–date, 61 v.

Since 1886 these are labeled "Probate Court Docket."

Probate Estate Docket, 1855–1870, 2 v. (A–B)

Probate Judgment Docket, 1859–date, 17 v.

Probate Fee Book, 1852–1867, 2 v., in county clerk's vault.
One volume is labeled "Ledger"; the other "Cost Record."

Probate Fee Book, 1868–date, 28 v. (1–28)

RECORDS OF WILLS, BONDS, AND LETTERS

Record of Wills, 1857–date, 20 v. (1–20)

[Record of] Proof of Notice to Claimants, 1866–date, 10 v. (A–F 1–4)

Administrators' Record, 1865–date, 14 v.

Executors' Record, 1866–date, 12 v. (1–12)

Conservators' Record, 1872–date, 6 v.

Guardians' Record, 1865–date, 8 v.

Record of Administrators de Bonis Non and Administrators with Will Annexed, 1898–1904, 1 v. (A)

Record of Administrators de Bonis Non, 1905–date, 1 v. (1)

Record of Administrators with Will Annexed, 1 v. (1)

INVENTORIES, APPRAISEMENTS, AND SALE BILLS

Inventory Record, 1859–date, 26 v. (A–R, 1–8)

Conservators' Inventory Record, 1905–date, 1 v. (1)

Guardians' Inventory Record, 1873–date, 4 v.

Appraisement Record, 1869–date, 19 v. (B–P, 1–4)

Sale Bill Record, 1861–date, 7 v.

REPORT RECORDS, ETC.

Report Record, 1870–date, 34 v. (A–27, 1–7)
The series contains reports of administrators, executors, and guardians.

"Administrators' Account Current," 1849–1852, 1 v. (A)

"Accounts Current, 1858–1860," 1 v.

Probate Ledger, 1862–date, 21 v.
The volume contains general accounts rendered by administrators, executors, or guardians.

Widows' Relinquishment and Selection Record, 1866–date, 8 v. (1–8)

Petition Record, 1889–date, 8 v. (1–8)
The volume contains miscellaneous petitions for authority to sell real estate, for appointment of guardians or conservators, etc.

Record of Proceedings on Petitions to Sell Real Estate, 1866–date, 10 v.

Record of Proceedings to Sell Real Estate of Minors, 1872–date, 6 v.

Petitions, decrees, and reports of sale are recorded.

Register of Receipts and Expenditures, 1903–date, 1 v.

Clerk of the Circuit Court

CIRCUIT COURT RECORDS

Circuit Court Record, 1836–date, 75 v. (1–75)

Up to about 1905, common law, chancery, and criminal records were in the same volumes. The records are now kept in separate volumes, which are in one series and numbered consecutively.

Decree Record, 1890–1904, 12 v.

Decrees of court in chancery cases are recorded.

Circuit Court Files, 1836–date, 568 f.b.

Common law, chancery and criminal cases are filed in same boxes and numbered consecutively.

Index to Court Records, 1858–date, 6 v. each for plaintiff and defendant.

General Docket, 1836–date, 4 v.

This, in reality, is an index to the files. It gives the name of plaintiff and defendant, action, and number of case.

Naturalization Record, 1853–date, 13 v.

Naturalization Papers, c. 1895–1906, 3 f.b.

DOCKETS, FEE BOOKS, ETC.

Court Docket, 1846–date, in vault.

Judgment Docket, 1837–date, 12 v. (1–12)

Execution Docket, 1836–1856, 1 v.; 1863–date, 4 v.

Docket of Mechanics' Liens, 1888–date, 1 v. (A)

Fee Book, 1839–1843, 2 v. (A–B); 1863–date, 19 v.

Register of Jurors, 1853–date, 3 v.

Transcript Record, 1859–date, 9 v.

States Attorneys' Report Record, 1873–date, 1 v. (A)

Register of Receipts and Expenditures, 1882–date, 4 v. (2–5)

Recorder

Entry Book, 1837–date, 35 v.

Deed and Mortgage Record, 1837–date, 534 v.

Deeds, mortgages, chattel mortgages, and miscellaneous records are kept in same series and numbered consecutively; and up to 1860 all types of record were kept in same volume. Beginning 1861 the miscellaneous, mortgage, and chattel records are in volumes apart from deeds.

Index to Deed Record, 9 v. each for grantor and grantee.

Plat Book, 1837–date, 30 v.; Index to plats, 2 v.

Index to Mortgages, 9 v. each for mortgagor and mortgagee.

Chattel Mortgage Index, 2 v. each for mortgagor and mortgagee.

Record of Certificates of Sale (sheriffs' and masters'), 1858–date, 5 v. (1–5)

Record of Certificates of Levy, 1842–date, 5 v.

Soldiers' Discharge Record, 1865–1904, 1 v.

Collectors' Bond Record, 1865–date, 3 v. (C–E)

Register of Receipts and Expenditures, 1872–1882, 1 v.; 1893–date, 1 v.

KANKAKEE COUNTY[1]

Kankakee county was set off from Iroquois and Will in 1853; territory attached to Vermilion was added later. The county seat is Kankakee. The courthouse is situated in a square and is of modern fireproof construction. No vaults are used, the records being in metal furniture in the offices.

County Clerk

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' AND SUPERVISORS' RECORDS

Supervisors' Record, 1853–date, 7 v. (A–G)

Supervisors' papers are destroyed from time to time.

COUNTY COURT RECORDS

County Court Record, 1872–date: Common Law, 3 v. (1–3); Criminal, 3 v. (1–3)

County Court Files, 1872–date.

The common law and criminal files are in same boxes with probate files, 184 f.b. in all.

Record of Special Assessment for Local Improvements, 1895–date, 3 v. (1–3)

Drainage Record, 1886–date, 2 v.

Insanity Record, 1861–1892, 1 v. (1)

Insanity Record (trial by commission), 1896–date, 2 v. (1–2)

Insane and Conservators' Record, 1882–1894, 1 v. (1)

The volume contains insanity record for 1882–1888, and conservators' bonds and letters, 1882–1894.

Naturalization Record, 1868–1906, 9 v. (1–9)

Judges' Docket, 1872–1874, 2 v.; 1899–date, 2 v.

Judgment Docket, 1872–date, 1 v. (1)

Execution Docket, 1872–date, 1 v. (1)

Judges' Insane Docket, 1894–1908, 1 v. (1)

The contents include name, date of trial, names of jury and witnesses, order of court, date, and reference to probate records.

[1] Examined July, 1912.

County Court Fee Book (common law and criminal), 1872–date, 5 v. (1–5)

TAXATION RECORDS

Abstract of Assessment and Taxes, 1872–date, 2 v.
Tabular statements of the footings of assessors' books.

Docket of Rates and Amounts Wanted, 1878–date, 3 v.
Assessors' Books, 1855–date.
Collectors' Books, 1855–date.
Board of Review Record, 1899–date, 2 v.
Board of Review Complaint Docket, 1899–date, 2 v.
Tax Judgment Record, 1855–1879, 4 v.
Tax Sale and Redemption Record, 1857–1879, 3 v.
Tax, Judgment, Sale, Redemption, and Forfeiture Record, 1884–date, 10 v. (5–14)
Record of Affidavits for Tax Deeds, 1853–date, 3 v. (1–3)

RECORDS OF VITAL STATISTICS

Marriage Record, 1853–1877, 2 v. (A–B)
The volumes record names of parties, date of license, when and by whom married.

Register of Marriages, 1877–date, 4 v. (C–F)
Board of health form.

Index to Marriage Records, 1853–date, 2 v. each for male and female.
Record of Applications for Marriage License, 1889–date, 20 v. (A–G, 1–13)
Marriage Licenses, 1853–date, 20 f.b.
Register of Births, 1878–date, 8 v. (1–8)
Register of Deaths, 1878–date, 5 v. (1–5)
Birth and death reports are not preserved for earlier dates than 1910.

Record of Physicians' and Dentists' Certificates, 1878–date, 2 v. (1–2)
Register of Physicians and Accoucheurs, 1878–date, 1 v. (1)

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Assessors' Bond Record, 1899–date, 1 v. (1)
Collectors' Bond Record, 1853–1882, 1 v. (A)

Record of Justices' of the Peace and Constables' Bonds, 1877–date, 1 v. (A)
Register of County and Township Officers, 1873–date, 2 v.
Register of Notaries and Justices of the Peace, 1877–date, 1 v. (1)
Militia Roll Record, 1861–1862, 1 v. (A)
Swamp Land Record, 1854–1862, 1 v.
Sales of swamp lands are recorded.

County Clerk—Probate

PROBATE COURT RECORDS

Probate Court Record, 1853–date, 32 v. (1–32)
Probate Files, 1853–date, 184 f.b., indexed.
Common law and criminal files are in same boxes with probate files.

DOCKETS AND FEE BOOKS

Probate Judges' Docket, 1867–date, 19 v. (1–3, A–P)
Probate Judgment and Claim Docket, 1853–date, 5 v. (A–E)
Probate Estate Docket, 1859–1879, 1 v. (A)
Probate Fee Book, 1859–date, 12 v. (A–L)

RECORDS OF WILLS, BONDS, AND LETTERS

Record of Wills, 1853–date, 4 v. (1–4)
Administrators' Record, 1859–1890, 2 v. (A–B)
Executors' Record, 1859–1890, 1 v. (A)
Administrators' and Executors' Record, 1890–date, 4 v. (C–F)
Conservators' Record, 1894–1906, 1 v.; 1905–date, 1 v.
The first volume contains a blank insanity trial form that was never used.
Guardians' Record, 1859–date, 4 v. (A–D)
Record of Miscellaneous Probate Bonds and Letters, 1882–date, 2 v. (A–B)

INVENTORIES, APPRAISEMENTS, AND SALE BILLS

Inventory, Appraisement, and Sale Record, 1859–1873, 1 v. (A)
Inventory Record, 1867–date, 6 v. (1–6)
Guardians' Inventory Record, 1883–date, 1 v. (1)
Appraisement Record, 1873–date, 5 v. (B–F)
Sale Record, 1868–date, 4 v.

REPORT RECORDS, ETC.

Report Record, 1869–date, 10 v. (A–J)
Guardians' and Conservators' Report Record, 1908–date, 1 v. (A)
Insolvent Estate Record, 1881–1888, 1 v. (1)
Only a few pages are used.
Widows' Relinquishment and Selection Record, 1877–date, 3 v. (A–C)
Record of Proceedings on Petitions to Sell Real Estate to Pay Debts, 1875–1882, 2 v.
One volume is for guardianships and one for estates.

Clerk of the Circuit Court

CIRCUIT COURT RECORDS

Circuit Court Record, 1853–date, 43 v. (A–Z, AA–QQ)
Index to Court Records, 1857–date, 3 v. each for plaintiff and defendant.
Complete Record, 1853–1892, 2 v. (A–B)
Circuit Court Files, 1853–date, 372 f.b.
Common law, chancery, and criminal files are in same boxes.
Naturalization Record, 1855–1879, 2 v. (A–B)

DOCKETS, FEE BOOKS, ETC.

Circuit Court Docket, 1853–1909, 1 v. for each term of court; 1909–date, 2 v., loose leaf.
Judgment Docket, 1853–date, 2 v. (A, C)
Execution Docket, 1853–date, 2 v. (B, D)
Docket of Mechanics' Liens, 1887–date, 2 v. (1–2)
Fee Book, 1853–date, 15 v. (A–O)
Justice of the Peace Transcript Record, 1853–date, 4 v.

Circuit Clerk—Recorder

Entry Book, 1853–date, 17 v. (A–Q)
Deed and Mortgage Record, 1853–date, 254 v. (1–254)
Up to 1860 (v. 25) deeds, mortgages, releases, and chattel mortgages were kept in same volume; 1860–date, they are in separate volumes which are numbered consecutively.

General Index, 1853–date, 20 v. each for grantor and grantee.
Index to Marginal Releases and Assignments, 1905–date, 1 v. (1)
Index to Chattel Mortgages, 3 v.
Record of Certificates of Levy, Sale, and Redemption, 1856–1876, 1 v. (A)
Corporation Record, 1853–date, 4 v. (A–D)
Collectors' Bond Record, 2 v. (3–4)

KENDALL COUNTY[1]

Kendall county was formed from La Salle and Kane in 1841; the county seat is Yorkville. The courthouse is in a square. It is not fireproof but has fireproof vaults, which are fitted with wooden shelves and tin filing-boxes.

County Clerk

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' AND SUPERVISORS' RECORDS

County Commissioners' Record, 1841–1859, 1 v. (A)

Supervisors' Record, 1859–date, 3 v. (B–D)

Register of County Bonds, 1853–1872, 1 v.

The register contains number, date, and amount of bond, to whom issued and when due.

COUNTY COURT RECORDS

County Court Record, 1872–date, 2 v. (1–2)

Confession Record, 1897–date, 1 v.

County Court Files (estates, guardianships, insanity, adoption, common law, and criminal), 1841–date, 339 f.b.

Naturalization Record, 1874–1906, 7 v. (A–G)

Judgment and Execution Docket, 1872–date, 1 v. (A)

Insanity Docket, 1894–date, 1 v. (1)

County Court Fee Book, 1872–date, 2 v. (1–2)

TAXATION RECORDS

Assessors' Books, 1845–date.

Collectors' Books, c. 1860–date.

Assessors' and collectors' books prior to 1893 are in basement vault.

Railroad Tax Book, 1865–1872, 1 v., in basement; 1883–1895, 1 v., in basement; 1896–date, 2 v. (1–2)

Tax Judgment Record, 1861–1879, 2 v. (A–B)

Tax Sale Record, 1857–1879, 2 v. (A–B)

[1] Examined July, 1912.

Tax Judgment, Sale, Redemption, and Forfeiture Record, 1880–date, 5 v.

RECORDS OF VITAL STATISTICS

Marriage Register, 1841–1877, 2 v. (A^1–A^2)

The register contains date of license, names of parties, date of marriage and by whom celebrated.

Marriage Licenses, August, 1860–January, 1867, 3 v.

These are marriage licenses glued into scrapbooks.

Register of Marriages, 1891–date, 1 v. (2)

Board of health form is used.

Register of Births, 1877–date, 4 v. (1–4)

Register of Deaths, 1877–date, 3 v. (1–3)

Index to Births and Deaths, 1877–date, 1 v. (A)

Record of Physicians' Certificates, 1878–1905, 1 v. (1), in basement.

Record of Physicians', Dentists', and Veterinary Certificates, 1904–date, 1 v.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Assessors' Bond Record, 1899–date, 1 v. (1)

Militia Roll Record, 1861–1862, 1 v. (A)

Estray Record, 1854–1883, 1 v.

Miscellaneous Record, 1890–date, 1 v. (1)

County Clerk—Probate

PROBATE COURT RECORDS

Probate Record, 1842–1849, 2 v.

Wills, inventories, sale bills, letters, bonds, reports, settlements, claims, etc. are recorded. One volume is labeled "Ledger" and the other "Records."

Probate Journal, 1849–date, 15 v. (A–O)

Proof of Heirship Record, 1904–date, 2 v. (1–2)

Probate Files, 1841–date.

See "County Court Files" above.

DOCKETS AND FEE BOOKS

Probate Judges' Minutes (or Docket), 1844–date, 10 v.

Estate Docket, 1856–1858, 1 v. (A)

Probate Ledger, 1858–1887, 2 v. (A–B)
Estate Docket and Ledger, 1901–date, 1 v. (C)
Probate Judgment Docket, 1859–date, 4 v. (1–4)
Probate Fee Book, 1858–date, 6 v. (1–6)

RECORDS OF WILLS, BONDS, AND LETTERS

Record of Wills, 1849–date, 2 v. (A–B)
The first volume contains administrators' records and letters, 1849–1857.

Administrators' Record, 1857–date, 4 v. (A–D)
Record of Letters of Administration, Orders, etc., 1842–1850, 1 v., labeled "Ledger."
'Probates," 1855–1857, 1 v.
Contents: bonds and letters of administrators, etc.

Executors' Record, 1859–date, 3 v. (A–C)
Conservators' Record, 1905–date, 1 v. (1)
Guardians' Record, 1858–date, 2 v. (1–2)

INVENTORIES, APPRAISEMENTS, SALE BILLS, ETC.

Inventory, Appraisement, and Sale Record, 1847–1857, 2 v., labeled "Records."
Inventory Record, 1859–date, 6 v. (A–F)
Guardians' Inventory Record, 1873–date, 1 v. (1)
Conservators' Inventory Record, 1905–date, 1 v.
Appraisement Record, 1858–date, 4 v. (A–D)
Sale Record, 1850–date, 5 v. (1, A–D)
Report Record, 1893–date, 5 v. (A–E)
Widows' Relinquishment and Selection Record, 1905–date, 1 v. (B)
Volume A is blank.

Record of Sale of Real Estate, 1907–date, 1 v. (1)

Clerk of the Circuit Court

CIRCUIT COURT RECORDS

Circuit Court Record, 1841–date, 21 v. (A–U)
Common law, chancery, and criminal proceedings are in the same volumes.

Confession Record, 1881–date, 2 v. (A–B)
Circuit Court Files, 1841–date, 192 f.b. (1–192)
Naturalization Record, 1855–1906, 6 v. (A–F)

DOCKETS, FEE BOOKS, ETC.

Judges' Dockets, 1841–1855, in basement; 1855–date, 20 v. (D–W)
Judgment and Execution Docket, 1841–date, 6 v. (A–F)
Docket of Mechanics' Liens, 1888–date, 1 v. (1)
Fee Book, 1841–date, 13 v. (A–M)
Justice of the Peace Transcript Record, 1849–date, 2 v. (B–C)
States Attorneys' Report Record, 1873–date, 1 v.
Coroners' Inquest Record, 1857–date, 1 v. (1)

Contents: name of deceased, jury, witnesses, and verdict.

Circuit Clerk—Recorder

DEED AND MORTGAGE RECORDS

Entry Book, 1865–date, 5 v. (2–6)
Deed Record, 1841–date, 66 v. (A–66)
Mortgage Record, 1856–date, 28 v. (A–28)
Release Record, 1870–date, 5 v. (A–E)
Patent and Mortgage Assignment Record, 1893–date, 3 v. (A^1–A^3)

These are records of letters patent and of assignments of mortgages.

Plat Book, 1863–date, 5 v. (1–5)
General Index, 1841–date, 7 v. (A–G) each for grantor and grantee.
Chattel Mortgage Record, 1851–date, 16 v. (2–17)

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Record of Sheriffs' Certificates of Levy and Sale, 1842–1892, 1 v.
Collectors' Bond Record, 1872–date, 1 v. (B)
Affidavit Record, 1903–date, 1 v. (2)

This volume is a record of miscellaneous affidavits and depositions.

Stallion Register, 1910–date, 2 v. (1–2)

KNOX COUNTY[1]

Knox county was organized in 1830 from territory taken from Fulton, and enlarged in 1831 from unorganized territory assigned to Henry. It had been authorized in 1825. The county seat is Galesburg. The courthouse as usual is built in the middle of a public square. The building has tile floors and vaulted ceilings with iron beams; the door facings, etc. are of wood. All in all the courthouse probably is reasonably safe against fire. The records, not being in vaults, are no safer than the courthouse. The books are kept on roller shelves; the files in tin boxes in the circuit clerk's office and steel boxes in the county clerk's.

County Clerk

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' AND SUPERVISORS' RECORDS

County Commissioners' Court Record, 1830–1849, 4 v. (1–4)

Supervisors' Record, 1850–date, 16 v. (A–P)

Supervisors' Papers, 1850–1908, 108 p.h., in tower room; 1908–date, 18 f.b., in office.

Road Papers, 1830–1852, 4 b., pigeonholed in tower room.

These papers include petitions, reports of viewers, surveys and plats.

Jury List, 1872–date, 2 v.

COUNTY COURT RECORDS

County Court Record, 1872–date, 6 v. (1–6)

County Court Files, 1872–date: Common Law, 23 f.b.; Criminal, 21 f.b.; Special Assessment, 22 f.b.; Index to files, 1 v.

Special Assessment Record, 1878–date, 8 v. (A–F)

Voluntary Assignment Record, 1878–1899, 1 v. (1)

Insanity Record, 1881–date, 3 v. (A–C)

Naturalization Record: Declaration of Intention, 1864–1906, 4 v. (A–D); Final Certificate, 1880–1906, 3 v. (2–4); Soldiers, 1866–1892, 1 v. (1); Minors, 1892–1906, 2 v.

Judges' Docket (common law and criminal), 1872–date, 3 v. (1–3)

[1] Examined July, 1912.

Judgment Docket, 1872–date, 3 v. (1–3)
Execution Docket, 1872–date, 2 v. (1–2)
Judges' Insanity Docket, 1893–date, 4 v. (B–E)
County Court Fee Book, 1872–date, 4 v. (1–4)

TAXATION RECORDS

Tabular Statement of Assessment and Taxes [Abstract of Assessment?], 1874–1893, 1 v.; 1900–1905, 1 v.

Statement of Assessment of property and of various taxes levied thereon, 1891–date, 1 v.

Assessors' Books, 1889–date.

Collectors' Books, 1833–1845, 2 folios in attic; 1845–date.

Both assessors' and collectors' books prior to 1909 are in basement.

Railroad Tax Book, 1875–date, 9 v. (1–9)

Record of Tax Sales, 1830–date, 11 v.

These records are tract indexes to tax sales.

Tax Judgment Record, 1850–1859, 2 v.; 1867–1879, 3 v. (D–F)

Tax Sale and Redemption Record, 1834–1854, 1 v.; 1858–1879, 3 v. (D–F)

Tax Judgment, Sale, Redemption, and Forfeiture Record, 1880–date, 11 v.

Record of Affidavits for Tax Deeds, 1849–date, 3 v. (1–3)

RECORDS OF VITAL STATISTICS

Marriage Record, 1830–1877, 4 v. (1, A–C)

The volumes contain names of parties, date of license and of marriage, and after 1874, ages of parties.

Register of Marriages, 1877–date, 4 v. (1–4)

The register includes names and ages of parties, date of license, when and by whom married.

Marriage Register, February, 1878–date, 3 v. (F–H)

Date of license, names and ages of parties, date of marriage, and to whom issued [?] are registered.

Index to Marriages, 1830–date, 3 v. each for male and female.

Record of Applications for Marriage License, 1883–date, 24 v. (1–24)

Marriage Licenses, 1830–1906, 56 p.h. in tower room; 1906–date, in office.

Register of Births, 1877–date, 8 v. (1–8); Index, 1 v.

Register of Deaths, 1877–date, 9 v. (1–9); Index, 1 v.
Birth Reports, 1877–1909, 17 p.h. in attic.
Death Reports, 1877–1909, 11 p.h. in attic.
The birth and death reports, 1910–date, are kept in office.
Record of Physicians' Certificates, 1877–date, 2 v. (1–2)
Record of Certificates of Registered Nurses, 1909–date, 1 v.
Record of Dentists' Certificates, 1899–date, 1 v.
Register of Dentists, 1877–date, 1 v. (1)
Register of Physicians and Accoucheurs, 1877–date, 1 v. (1)
Veterinary Surgeons' Certificate Record, 1900–date, 1 v. (1)
Census Schedule, 1835, 1 folio in tower room.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Election Papers, Poll Books, Tally Sheets and Abstracts, 1864–1882, 1 cupboard in tower.
Justices' of the Peace and Constables' Bond Record, 1884–date, 2 v. (4–5)
List of Township Officers, 1883–date, 2 v.
Record of County Officers Elected, 1838–1856, 1 v.
Register of County Officers, 1857–date, 2 v. (1–2)
Militia Roll Record, 1861–1862, 1 v. (A)
Record of Stock Marks (marks and brands), 1845–1885, 1 v.
Horse Certificate Register, 1888–1907, 1 v. (1)
Courthouse Record, 1884–1886, 1 v.
The volume records specifications for courthouse, and labor and material used in the building, etc.

County Clerk—Probate

PROBATE COURT RECORDS

Probate Court Record, January, 1850–date, 43 v. (1–43)
The record contains minutes of court proceedings, orders, decrees, claims settled, reports, and petitions filed, etc.
Probate Files, 1835–date: Estates, 515 f.b.; Guardianships, 76 f.b.; Conservatorships, 25 f.b.; Wills, 74 f.b.; Insanity (1883–date), 27 f.b.
Except in the case of estates the papers are filed alphabetically.

DOCKETS AND FEE BOOKS

Probate Judges' Docket, 1861–date, 31 v. (2–32)

Estate (or Probate) Judgment Docket, 1859–1867, 1 v.

Estate Docket, 1849–1908, 2 v. (A–B)

The contents include: name of estate, and of agent; date of letters, amount of bond and names of sureties; names of widow and heirs; date and amount of inventory, sale bills, etc.; and reference to current account record.

Record of Claims Allowed, 1858–1908, 3 v. (1–3)

Lists of claims allowed against estates, giving name of claimant, with nature amount and date of claim are recorded.

Estate, Claim, and Judgment Docket, 1908–date, 2 v. (4–5)

This is a combination of estate docket and judgment docket.

Probate Fee Book, 1855–date, 18 v. (A–18)

RECORDS OF WILLS, BONDS, AND LETTERS

Record of Wills, 1835–date, 12 v. (1–12)

Administrators' Record, 1858–date, 10 v. (A–J)

Bonds and Letters of Administration, November, 1836–December, 1849, 4 v.

The record includes bonds and letters, and record of claims settled.

Executors' Record, 1858–date, 5 v. (A–E)

Conservators' Record, 1893–date, 3 v. (1–3)

Guardians' Record, 1858–date, 4 v. (A–D)

Miscellaneous Bond Record, 1877–date, 4 v. (A–D)

Record of Bonds and Letters, 1850–1858 (1881), 2 v. (1–2)

The volumes contain bonds and letters of administrators, executors, guardians, etc., 1850–1858; and miscellaneous bonds to 1881.

INVENTORIES, APPRAISEMENTS, SALE BILLS, ETC.

Record of Inventories, Appraisements, and Sale Bills, 1838–1877, 7 v. (1–7)

Inventory Record, 1877–date, 12 v. (8–19)

Appraisement Record, 1862–date, 11 v. (6–16)

Sale Record, 1877–date, 4 v. (9–12)

Administrators', Executors', and Guardians' Accounts, 1838–1866, 2 v.

Record of Accounts Current, 1877–date, 33 v. (1–33)

Insolvent Estate Record, 1883–1891, 1 v. (19)

Widows' Relinquishment and Selection Record, 1901–date, 1 v. (1)

Record of Petitions and Decrees for Sale of Real Estate, August, 1854–date, 19 v. (1–19)

Clerk of the Circuit Court

CIRCUIT COURT RECORDS

Circuit Court Record: Common Law, Chancery, and Criminal, 1830–1840, 1 v. (1); Chancery, 1841–date, 70 v. (1–70); Common Law and Criminal, 1841–1868, 7 v. (1–7); Common Law, 1868–date, 23 v. (8–30); Criminal, 1868–date, 17 v. (1–17)

Recognizance Record, 1872–1888, 1 v.

Index to Court Records, 1858–date, 5 v. (A–E) each for plaintiff and defendant.

Circuit Court Files: Common Law, 1830–1898, 450 f.b., in basement; 1899–date, 116 f.b.; Criminal, 1903–date, 11 f.b.; Chancery, 1830–date, 603 f.b.

Index to Court Files: Common Law, 2 v. (1–2); Chancery, 2 v. (1–2); Criminal, 2 v. (1–2)

Naturalization Record, 1856–1906, 7 v.

DOCKETS, FEE BOOKS, ETC.

General Docket, 1854–date, 5 v. (1–5)

Judges' Docket, 1857–date, 47 v.

All but v. 17–22 (1906–date) are in basement.

Docket of Liens, 1887–date, 2 v. (1–2)

Judgment Docket, 1842–date, 2 v. (2–3)

Fee Book, 1850–date, 22 v.

Justice of the Peace Transcript Record, 1848–date, 7 v. (1–7)

Volumes 1–4 are in tower storeroom.

States Attorneys' Report Record, 1872–date, 1 v.

Circuit Clerk—Recorder

DEED AND MORTGAGE RECORDS

Deed Entry Book, 1818–date, 39 v. (1, A–H, 1–30)

Mortgage Entry Book, 1842–1874, 3 v. (1–3)

Transcribed Deed Record, 1818–1831, 8 v. (A–H)

Deed Record, 1830–date, 216 v. (1–216)

Mortgage Record, 1842–date, 108 v. (1–108)

Release Record, 1866–date, 18 v. (A–R)
Plat Book, 1890–date, 3 v.
Tract Index, 1818–date: Lands, 23 v.; Lots, 11 v.
Chattel Mortgage Record, 1855–date, 65 v. (1–65); Index, 4 v.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Record of Certificates of Levy, Sale, and Redemption, 1842–date, 4 v. (A–D)
Land Entry Book, 1817–1857, 1 v.
Record of United States Surveys [1855], 1 v.
Collectors' Bond Record, 1905–date, 1 v. (C)
Record of Soldiers' Discharges, 1866–1899, 1 v.
Stallion Register, 1910–date, 2 v. (1–2)

LAKE COUNTY[1]

Lake county was set off from McHenry in 1839; the county seat is Waukegan. The courthouse at Waukegan is in a square but is not fireproof. The records are in vaults. Gas light is used.

County Clerk

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' AND SUPERVISORS' RECORDS

County Commissioners' Court Record, August, 1839–June, 1850, 2 v. (A–B)

Supervisors' Record, April, 1850–date, 10 v. (A–J)

Supervisors' Papers, 1850–1910, 56 f.b., in basement; 1911–date, 4 f.b., in vault.

Papers for the years 1856, 1869–1877 are missing.

Jury List, 1872–date, 2 v.

COUNTY COURT RECORDS

County Court Record, April, 1853–date, 8 v. (A–H)

Record of Judgment by Confession, 1858–date, 3 v. (A–C)

County Court Files (common law and criminal), 1853–date, 293 f.b.

Drainage Papers, 1879–date, 18 f.b.

Insane and Conservators' Record, 1876–1893, 3 v. (1–3)

These records contain findings and orders in insanity cases, and the bonds and letters of conservators.

Insanity Record, 1893–date, 2 v. (4–5)

Findings and orders of court are included.

Naturalization Record, 1864–1906, 8 v. (A–H)

Clerks' Register of Papers Filed in County Court, 1906–date, 2 v. (1–2)

Names of parties and of attorneys, kind of action, date and description of papers filed are registered.

[1] Examined August, 1912.

County Court Judges' Docket (common law and criminal), 1872–date, 17 v.

Judgment Docket, 1853–1893, 1 v. (A)

Execution Docket, 1853–1893, 1 v. (A)

Judgment and Execution Docket, 1893–date, 2 v. (B–C)

Insanity Docket, 1893–date, 2 v. (1–2)

County Court Fee Book, 1858–date, 20 v. (A–T)

This series includes separate volumes for common law, criminal, insane, probate, and other fees.

TAXATION RECORDS

Abstract of Assessment and Taxes, 1858–date, 4 v.

Tabular statements of footings of assessors' books are given.

Assessors' Books, 1850–date.

Collectors' Books, 1850–date.

Railroad Tax Book, 1885–date, 2 v. (2–3)

Tax Judgment Record, 1867–1879, 3 v. (A–C)

Tax Sale and Redemption Record, 1850–1879, 4 v. (A–D)

Tax Judgment, Sale, Redemption, and Forfeiture Record, 1880–date, 51 v.

Record of Affidavits for Tax Deeds, 1875–date, 7 v. (1–7)

Affidavits for Tax Deeds, 1893–date, 9 f.b.

RECORDS OF VITAL STATISTICS

Marriage Record, September, 1831–August, 1874, 3 v. (A–C)

The records contain name of man and woman, date of license, date of marriage and person officiating.

Marriage Record, August, 1874–August, 1905, 7 v. (C–I)

The volumes record copy of license and certificate of marriage, giving names, ages, and addresses of parties, date of license, when and by whom married.

Marriage Record, August, 1905–date, 11 v. (J–T)

Application for marriage license, copy of license and certificate of marriage are recorded. The board of health record has never been kept.

Index to Marriage Records (male and female), 3 v. (A–C)

Applications for Marriage License, 1889–date, 9 f.b. (21–29)

Marriage Licenses, 1859–date, 26 f.b.

Register of Births, 1877–date, 8 v. (1–8)

There is an index in each volume.

Register of Deaths, 1877–date, 9 v. (1–9)
There is an index in each volume.

Birth Reports, December, 1877–December, 1911, 6 f.b., in basement vault; December, 1911–date, 1 f.b., in vault.

Death Reports, 1878–1911, 3 f.b., in basement; 1911–date, 1 f.b., in vault.

Record of Physicians' Certificates, 1877–date, 2 v. (A–B)

Register of Physicians and Accoucheurs, 1877–date, 1 v.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Assessors' Bond Record, 1899–date, 1 v. (A)

Register of County Officers, 1853–date, 2 v. (C–D)

Register of Township Officers, 1893–date, 1 v. (1)

Militia Roll Record, 1861–1862, 1 v. (A)

Survey of Swamp Lands, Lake County, c. 1855–1860, 1 v.
The volume contains plats and survey notes.

County Clerk—Probate

PROBATE COURT RECORDS

Probate Justices' Record, October, 1839–November, 1849, 2 v. (A–B)
Volume A contains the orders of the court. Volume B contains inventories, appraisements and sale bills, letters and bonds, settlements, etc.

Probate Order Book, 1849–date, 47 v. (A–Z, 27–47)

Probate Files, 1839–date, 481 f.b.; Index, 1 v.
Estate, guardianship, insanity, and adoption files are kept together.

DOCKETS AND FEE BOOKS

Probate Judges' Docket, 1879–date, 17 v. (1–17)

Probate Judgment Docket, 1858–1894, 4 v. (A–D)

Register of Claims Allowed, 1894–date, 2 v. (1–2)
The register gives date of claim, name of claimant, amount and nature of claim, and date allowed.

RECORDS OF WILLS, BONDS, AND LETTERS

Will Record, 1849–date, 11 v. (A–K)

Administrators' Record, 1858–date, 8 v. (A–H)

Guardians' Record, 1858–date, 4 v. (A–D)

Miscellaneous Bond Record, 1875–date, 2 v. (A–B)

This is a record of bonds of administrators de bonis non, etc.,

Administrators' Bonds, Sale of Real Estate, 1884–date, 2 v. (A–B)
Executors' Bonds for Sale of Real Estate, 1886–date, 1 v. (A)

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Inventory Record, 1858–date, 13 v. (A–M)
Guardians' Inventory Record, 1873–date, 2 v. (A–B)
Appraisement Record, 1858–date, 10 v. (A–J)
Sale Record, 1858–date, 2 v. (A–B)

Clerk of the Circuit Court

CIRCUIT COURT RECORDS

Circuit Court Record, 1840–date, 46 v. (1–46)

Up to 1875, chancery, common law, and criminal records were kept in the same volume. Since that date they are in separate volumes but in the same series.

Index to Court Record, 1858–date, 3 v. each for plaintiff and defendant.
Circuit Court Files, 1840–date, 524 f.b.
Index to Court Files, 1839–date, 6 v. (1–6)

The headings include names of parties, of attorneys, kind of action, date suit was begun, description of papers, and date of filing.

Naturalization Record, 1868–1906, 3 v. (A, A, B)

DOCKETS, FEE BOOKS, ETC.

Circuit Court Judges' Docket, 1858–date, 1 v. for each term of court.
Judgment Docket, 1840–1889, 4 v. (A–D)
Execution Docket, 1840–1889, 3 v. (A–C)
Judgment and Execution Docket, 1889–date, 5 v. (E–I)
Docket of Mechanics' Liens, 1887–date, 1 v. (1)
Fee Book, 1848–date, 20 v. (B–U)
Justice of the Peace Transcript Record, 1847–date, 8 v. (A–H)
Court Record of City Court (Zion), 1903–1907, 1 v.
Docket of City Court (Zion), 1903–1907, 1 v.

Circuit Clerk—Recorder

DEED AND MORTGAGE RECORDS

Entry Book, 1839–date, 21 v. (1–21)

Deed Record, 1839–date, 196 v. (1–196)

Mortgage Record, 1845–date, 208 v. (1–208)

Chattel mortgages are kept in same series with real estate mortgages but in separate volumes.

Plat Book, 1868–date, 9 v. (A–I); Index, 1 v.

General Index, 1839–date, 25 v. (A–Y) each for grantor and grantee.

Index to Chattel Mortgages, 3 v.

Index to Marginal Releases and Assignments, 1 v.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Record of Certificates of Sale and Redemption, 1844–date, 7 v. (A–G)

Record of Articles of Incorporation, 1874–date, 6 v. (A–F)

Surveyors' Record, 1871–date, 1 v. (1)

Surveyors' Record, 1840–1883, 8 v. (1–8)

Contents: field notes and plats.

Township Treasurers' Bond Record, 1889–date, 1 v. (1)

Collectors' Bond Record, 1873–date, 3 v. (A–C)

La Salle County[1]

La Salle county was set off from Putnam and Tazewell in 1831; the county seat is Ottawa. The county has a probate clerk and a recorder besides the county and circuit clerks. The courthouse is fireproof, heated by hot air, and lighted by electricity. The vaults are well equipped but the county clerk's vault is overcrowded.

County Clerk

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' AND SUPERVISORS' RECORDS

County Commissioners' Record, March, 1831–April, 1849, 4 v. (A, B, C, and one volume labeled "Journal")[2]

Supervisors' Record, 1849–date, 17 v. (1, A–R, no "B" or "J")

Index to Supervisors' Record, 1877–date, 1 v.

Old Road Papers, 1831–1857, 6 f.b.

The papers include road petitions, reports of supervisors and road viewers, road plats, etc.

County Commissioners' and Supervisors' Papers, 1835–1869, 1881–1883, 1893, 1897–date.

Jury List, 1888–date, 3 v.

COUNTY COURT RECORDS

County Court Record (chancery), June, 1854–April, 1872, 5 v. (A–E)

County Court Record (common law and criminal), 1854–1872, 7 v. (A–G)

County Court Record, 1872–date, 16 v. (1–16)

Record of Defaults and Confessions, 1854–1909, 4 v. (A–D)

Recognizance Record, 1883–1906, 1 v. (1)

[1] Examined February, 1912.

[2] County commissioners' record, C: 51–52, contains a notice of the Ottawa library association. This association was incorporated February 13, 1839. There were ninety-nine members. The trustees chosen were as follows:—George B. Macey, Chester B. Hall, Lorenzo Leland, Michael Ryan, Madison E. Hollister, Jesse J. Everett, and Joseph Hall.

County Court Files, 1854–date, 249 f.b.

These include common law, chancery, and criminal cases, 1854–1872, common law and criminal, 1872–date. The case papers are all numbered in the same series.

Plaintiffs' Index to Files, 1854–date, 2 v.

Miscellaneous Record, 1891–1907, 2 v. (1–2)

Special assessment rolls for local improvement are recorded here.

Drainage Commissioners' Record, 1909–date, 1 v. (1)

Assignment Record, 1877–date, 6 v. (1–6)

A record of voluntary assignments.

Record of Insane Persons, 1867–1874, 1 v. (A)

Insane and Conservators' Record, 1874–1887, 1 v. (B)

The volume contains a record of insanity cases, giving cause, etc.; also record of conservators' bonds.

Insanity Record, 1893–date, 2 v.

"Distraction Record," 1895–1904, 1 v. (1)

Verdict of jury or commission and order for commitment are recorded.

Insanity Files, 1872–date, 35 f.b.

These are filed alphabetically.

Naturalization Record: Declaration of Intention, May, 1854–September, 1906, 9 v.; Final Certificate, 1852–1906, 14 v.; Petitions and Certificates of Minors, 1877–1906, 5 v.; Petitions and Certificates of Soldiers, 1865–1898, 1 v.; Index to above records, 3 v.

Naturalization Papers, 1846–1906, 30 f.b.

Judges' Docket, 1872–date, 16 v.

Judgment Docket, 1854–1872, 6 v. (A–F)

Judgment Docket, 1872–date, 6 v. (1–6)

Executions, c. 1875–date, 26 f.b.

These are filed alphabetically.

Register of Dependent Children, 1886–date, 1 v.

The register contains: name and age of child; name of institution to which he was committed and date; remarks as to his progress, etc.

Insanity Docket, 1888–1893, 1 v.; 1893–date, 3 v. (1–3)

Fee Book, 1854–1872, 6 v. (A–F); 1872–date, 8 v. (1–8)

Indictment Record, 1895–1906, 1 v. (1)

TAXATION RECORDS

Certificates of Tax Levies, c. 1850–date, 32 f.b.

Contents: certificates of school, road, bridge, and other tax levies.

Road Tax Lists, 1850–1857, 7 f.b.; 1857–1890, 25 f.b.

In the first seven files listed there are other miscellaneous papers, e.g., school tax certificates, school plats, etc.

Railroad Schedules of Taxable Property, 1854–date, 14 f.b.

Assessors' Books and Collectors' Books, 1841–date, in lower vault.

Railroad Tax Book, 1854–date, 6 v.

Record of Proceedings of the Board of Review, 1899–date, 1 v.

Board of Review Complaint Docket, 1899–date, 3 v.

Tax Judgment, Sale, and Redemption Record, 1860–date, 28 v.

Record of Affidavits for Tax Deeds, 1873, 1 v.

The volume is labeled "Records."

Record of Affidavits for Tax Deeds, 1874–date, 8 v. (A–H)

Affidavits for Tax Deeds, 1864–date, 11 f.b.

Earlier affidavits, c. 1845–1865, are in 2 f.b. with other papers.

RECORDS OF VITAL STATISTICS

Marriage Register, June, 1831–July, 1851, 1 v. (A); July, 1851–November, 1877, 4 v. (B–E)

These volumes are registers of marriage licenses, and give date of license, names of parties, name of person officiating, date of marriage, and date recorded. Volume A gives only the names, date of marriage and person officiating. The volume for the years 1831–1851 measures 6 x 15 inches and contains 144 p.

Register of Marriages, 1877–date, 7 v. (1–7)

Board of health form is used.

Index to Marriages, 1831–date, 3 v. each for male and female.

Marriage Licenses, 1831–date, 101 f.b., in vault.

Marriage Affidavits (applications), 1850–1904, 39 f.b.

Register of Births, 1877–date, 13 v. (1–13); Index, 2 v. (A–B)

There is also another volume "Record of Births A," containing births, 1868–1877, but the entries are few, and little more than the names of parents and date of birth are given.

Register of Still Births, 1878–date, 1 v.

Register of Deaths, 1877–date, 7 v. (1–7); Index, 1 v. (A)

Death Record (coroners), May, 1910–date, 1 v. (1)

The contents are the same as those of the register of deaths.

Birth Reports, 1877–date, 28 f.b.

Death Reports, 1878–date, 15 f.b.

Physicians' Certificate Record, 1877–date, 2 v. (1–2)

Register of Physicians and Accoucheurs, 1877–date, 2 v.

Registered Nurses' Certificate Record, 1909–date, 1 v. (1)
Dental Record, 1898–date, 1 v. (1)
Register of Dentists, 1882–date, 1 v.
Architects' License Record, 1897–date, 2 v. (1–2)

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Assessors' Record, 1899–date, 1 v. (1)
This is a record of town assessors' bonds.

Justices', Constables', and Police Magistrates' Bond Record, 1885–date, 2 v. (1–2)

Miscellaneous Old Bonds, 1831–date, 12 f.b. (499–510)
These are justices', constables', and assessors' bonds, appeal bonds, attachment bonds, etc.

Record of Justices and Constables, 1831–1865, 1 v.
The volume contains name, date of election and expiration of term, residence and when elected.

Register of Township Officers, 1885–date, 2 v. (1–2)

Register of Notaries, 1874–date, 2 v.
The register gives names of notaries, date of election and expiration of term.

Militia Rolls, 1861–1865, in old box in corner of lower vault.

Estray Record, 1863–date, 1 v. (C)

Incorporation Record, 1869–date, 1 v.
Certificate of incorporation of towns, cemetery associations, societies, etc. are recorded.

County Clerks' Register of Receipts and Expenditures, 1883–date, 3 v. (1–3)

Swamp Land Record, 1852, 1 v.
A record of swamp and overflowed lands in the county, with plats showing their location.

Clerk of the Probate Court

PROBATE COURT RECORDS

Probate Record, 1831–date, 106 v. (A^1–A^6, OA, OOA, 1–98)[1]
Up to 1847 this series contained all probate records, sale bills, inventories, claims, accounts, wills, etc.

Probate Files, 1832–date, 596 f.b., in vault.

[1] The first estate settled in La Salle county was that of Anthony Antonia (a man of color). The amount of his estate was $21.25 which lacked $5.27½ of being enough to pay burial expenses, doctor's bills, probate fees, etc. Probate record, A^1: 1, 36, August 30, 1831.

Index to Estate Files, 1832–date, 1 v.

The index lists name of deceased, administrator or executor, date of letters, and number of box where papers are filed.

Guardianship Files, 1837–date, 131 f.b.; Index, 1 v.

The index gives name of minor and of guardian, date of letters, and number of filingbox.

Conservatorship Files, c. 1850–date, 27 f.b.; Index, 1 v.

DOCKETS AND FEE BOOKS

Probate Judges' Docket, December, 1869–date, 55 v. (A–M, 1–42)

Estate Docket, April, 1856–October, 1877, 2 v. (A–B)

Estate and Claim Docket, November, 1877–date, 11 v. (C–M)

This is both estate docket and register of claims.

Estate Ledger, 1860–1879, 3 v. (A–C)

This is a register of all claims allowed against estates, showing date and amount of allowance, names of claimants, reference to probate record and judgment record.

Probate Judgment Docket, June, 1859–date, 16 v. (A–P); Index, 6 v.

The contents include: name of estate, and of claimant; amount and nature of claim filed; judgment of the court thereon.

Probate Fee Book, December, 1849–date, 17 v. (A–Q)

Register of Fees, 1882–date, 4 v. (1–4)

RECORDS OF WILLS BONDS, AND LETTERS

Will Record, September, 1847–date, 18 v. (A–R)

Index of Wills Filed and Not Probated, 1848–date, 1 v.

Administrators' Record, September, 1847–date, 15 v. (OA, A–N)

Executors' Record, March, 1850–date, 14 v. (A–N)

Conservators' Record, October, 1879–date, 3 v. (A–C)

Guardians' Record, September, 1847–date, 10 v. (OB, A–I)

Bond Record, 1900–date. 2 v. (1–2)

"Additional" bonds, etc. are recorded here.

Administrators' Record de Bonis Non, 1885–date, 1 v. (A)

Record of Administrators with Will Annexed, 1885–date, 3 v. (A–C)

INVENTORIES, APPRAISEMENTS, AND SALE BILLS

Sales, Inventories, Appraisement Bills and Reports, September, 1847–December, 1849, 1 v. (A)

Inventory and Sale Bills, December, 1849–December, 1859, 2 v. (A–B)

The volumes contain inventories, sale bills, allowance to widow and heirs, accounts of administrators or executors, and appraisement bills.

Inventory Record, January, 1860–date, 19 v. (C–U)

Guardians' Inventory Record, October, 1872–date, 4 v. (A–D)

Appraisement Record, July, 1860–date, 18 v. (C–T)

Sale Record, 1850–date, 8 v. (C–J)

Volume for 1872–1873 is missing.

REPORT RECORDS

Administrators', Executors', and Guardians' Accounts, December, 1849–December, 1851, 1 v.

These are accounts or reports of moneys received and paid out.

Administrators' and Executors' Report Record, 1886–date, 27 v. (1–27)

Reports of receipts and expenditures.

Guardians' Report Record, March, 1887–date, 15 v. (1–15)

Widows' Relinquishment and Selection Record, July, 1872–date, 8 v. (A–H)

Real Estate Sale Record, February, 1888–date, 9 v. (1–9)

This record includes petitions to sell real estate and decree of court upon them.

Clerk of the Circuit Court

CIRCUIT COURT RECORDS

Circuit Court Record: Common Law, Criminal, and Chancery, April, 1831–November, 1843, 7 v. (A–G); Common Law and Criminal, 1843–1870, 7 v. (H–N); Common Law, 1870–date, 20 v.; Chancery, 1843–date, 68 v.; Criminal, 1870–date, 9 v.

Default and Confession Record, 1861–1898, 3 v. (0, 1, 2)

Default Record, 1897–date, 1 v. (2)

Confession Record, 1898–date, 1 v. (3)

Recognizance Record, 1878–1897, 1 v. (A)

Plaintiffs' Index to Court Records, 1831–date.

Defendants' Index to Court Records, 1831–date.

Circuit Court Files, 1831–date, 758 f.b.

Common law, chancery, and criminal papers are filed together.

Naturalization Record, 1840–1906: Declaration of Intention, May, 1840–1906; Petition, Oath and Final Papers, November, 1846–1906; Petition, Oath, and Final Papers (minors), 1876–1898.

Court Docket, c. 1831–date.

Since 1909 a loose-leaf docket has been used.

Judgment Docket, May, 1833–date, 33 v. (A–33)

Naturalization Docket, November, 1869–May, 1873, 1 v. (A)

The volume contains name of petitioner and date, and order of the court.

Fee Book, May, 1836–date, 50 v.

Justice of the Peace Transcript Record, February, 1848–date, 6 v. (A–F)

Report of Sale Record (chancery), 1897–date, 2 v.

These are reports of sales of lands by master in chancery.

Register of Jurors, 1888–1900, 1 v.

The register includes name, amount of fee, date, etc.

Indictment Record, 1883–1908, 3 v. (1–3)

Coroner's Record, February, 1897–December, 1904, 1 v. (1)

The volume is a record of inquests with verdict.

Recorder

DEED AND MORTGAGE RECORDS

Entry Book, 1831–1840, 4 v.

Entry Book, September, 1844–date, 30 v. (2–31)

Deed and Mortgage Record, 1831–date, 499 v.

Up to 1870 deeds and mortgages were kept in same volume; but since 1870 they have been kept in separate volumes, in same series. Certain records damaged by a courthouse fire have been copied or have been replaced by abstracts. Other records that were badly scorched have not been copied.

Miscellaneous Record.

This record is kept in same general series with deeds and mortgages and numbered accordingly. It contains such instruments as certificates of election or of incorporation, powers of attorney, wills from foreign counties or states, etc.

Plat Book, 1833–date, 13 v.

Index to Plats, 2 v.

General Index, 1831–date, 51 v. each for grantor and grantee.

Tract Index, 1831–date: Lands, 8 v.; Lots, 8 v.

Chattel Mortgage Record, February, 1876–date, 53 v. (24–76)

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Record of Certificates of Levy, Sale, and Redemption, 1845–date, 9 v. (L–T)

Surveyors' Record, May, 1833–March, 1841, 1 v., not labeled.

The volume contains surveys made by county surveyors, Joseph Cloud, Colonel D. F. Hitt, and George Norris (deputy surveyor under Hitt).

Surveyors' Record, June, 1841–June, 1866, 1 v. (B)

Surveyors' Record, 1871–1886, 1 v. (D)

Certified plats made by D. F. Hitt, surveyor, are recorded.

Surveyors' Record, 1886–1906, 1 v. (1)

The record contains certified plats and accompanying notes.

County Surveyors' Record, 1855–1859, 1 v.

Notes of surveys are recorded. The volume is labeled "Surveyors' Record E."

County Surveyors' Record, June, 1870–July, 1896, 1 v., labeled "Record."

Soldiers' Discharge Record, 1865–1898, 1 v.

School Commissioners' Record, 1833–1857, 1 v.

This volume contains petitions from the inhabitants of the various districts to the commissioners to sell school lands; also record of sale of lands, giving names of buyers, amounts, value, plats, etc. The back is off and the volume is not labeled.

LAWRENCE COUNTY[1]

Lawrence county was organized from Crawford and Edwards in 1821; the county seat is Lawrenceville. The courthouse is situated in a public square, fireproof, fitted with steam heat and electric light, and equipped with large and good vaults, which have steel equipment. Some of the older records are stored in the basement.

County Clerk

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' AND SUPERVISORS' RECORDS

County Commissioners' Record: "Order Book," September, 1823–August, 1839, 1 v.; "Records," September, 1839–June, 1857, 2 v.

Supervisors' Record, 1857–date, 6 v. (A–F)

Supervisors' Papers, 1876–date, 16 f.b.

Jury List, 1872–date, 1 v.

COUNTY COURT RECORDS

County Court Record, 1872–date: Common Law, 1 v.; Criminal, 1 v.

County Court Files (common law and criminal), 1872–date, 25 f.b.

These are indexed in "Index to Probate Files."

Insanity Record, 1893–date, 1 v. (1)

County Court Judges' Docket, 1872–date, 3 v.

Execution Docket, 1872–1900, 1 v. (A)

Judges' Insanity Docket, 1893–date, 1 v. (1)

County Court Fee Book (common law and criminal), 1872–date, 6 v.

TAXATION RECORDS

Docket of Rates and Amounts Wanted, 1883–date, 2 v.

Land Entry Book, c. 1818–1854, 1 v.

The volume contains name of patentee, date of entry, amount, location and description of land, and is labeled "Transcript Book—For Assessor."

[1] Examined March–April, 1912.

Assessors' Books, 1853–date.
Collectors' Books, 1854–date.
Board of Review Record, 1899–date, 2 v.
Board of Review Complaint Docket, 1899–date, 2 v.
Tax Judgment Record,[1] 1833–1858, 1 v.; 1873–1879, 2 v.
Tax Sale Record, 1835–1879, 7 v.
Record of Forfeited Lands, 1873–1879, 1 v. (A)
Tax Judgment, Sale, Redemption, and Forfeiture Record, 1880–date, 9 v.
Record of Affidavits for Tax Deeds, 1851–1863, 1 v.; 1872–date, 3 v. (A–C)

RECORDS OF VITAL STATISTICS

Marriage Record, June, 1821–August, 1826, 1 v.
The volume is 8 x 8 inches, indexed by males.

Marriage Record, October, 1826–1880, 8 v. (A–H)[2]
The record gives names of parties, date of license, date of marriage, and name of person certifying.

Register of Marriages, 1877–date, 3 v.; Index, by male, 1 v.
Board of health form is used.

Record of Applications for Marriage License, 1907–date, 3 v. (1–3)
Marriage Licenses, 1894–date, 12 f.b.
Register of Births, 1877–date, 5 v.; Index, 1 v.
Birth Reports and Death Reports, 1903–date, 5 f.b.
Register of Deaths, 1878–date, 2 v. (1–2); Index, 1 v.
Record of Physicians' Certificates, December, 1877–date, 1 v.
Register of Physicians and Accoucheurs, 1878–1907, 1 v.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Poll Book, 1853.
This is the record of an election for local officers.

Justice of the Peace Bond Record, 1889–date, 1 v.
Constables' Bond Record, 1889–date, 1 v.

[1] Probably before 1841 this was a tax sale record.

[2] In the back of volume C of the Marriage record, 1841–1850, is a "Record Composed of laws & ordinances, &c., of the Corporation of Lawrenceville 1835."

Assessors' Bond Record, 1899–date, 1 v. (1)

Register of Commissions, 1863–date, 1 v.

Names of officers, together with date of election and expiration of term of office are registered.

Militia Roll Record, 1861, 1 v. (A)

Record of Ear Marks and Brands, 1857–1892, 1 v.

Estray Record, 1867–date, 1 v.

Swamp Land Record, n.d., 1 v.

The record contains plats of land, and description as to timber, etc. The volume is 8 x 8 inches.

County Clerk—Probate

PROBATE COURT RECORDS

"Probate Court Order Book A," 1819–1850, 1 v.

The volume contains inventories and appraisement bills, 1819–1829; the latter part contains a record of settlements made and claims allowed, c. 1840–1850. The book is leather bound and 7 x 14 inches.

"Probate Order Book A," 1819–1854, 1 v., not indexed.

This is a kind of estate docket and index, showing place of record and date of letters of administration, bonds, reports, sale bills, etc., and also including a list of claims allowed against each estate. The volume also contains inventories, sale bills, etc., 1819–1841.

Probate Record, September, 1823–December, 1836, 1 v.

Contents: orders of court, and records of letters and bonds. The volume is labeled "Memorandum Book A" and is 8 x 14 inches.

"Complete Record—Probate Court," September, 1836–September, 1841, 1 v.

The record includes court orders, letters, bonds, inventories, appraisements and sale bills, and settlements of administrators, etc.

"Record Book," September, 1841–December, 1844, 1 v. (C)

The contents are the same as those of the previous volume.

"Probate Records," December, 1845–April, 1859, 4 v. (D–G)

Probate Court Journal, 1859–date, 19 v. (A–S)

The volumes contain orders, decrees, judgments on claims, record of reports, settlements, etc. The later volumes include miscellaneous records relating to drainage, special assessment, etc.

Probate Files, 1821–date, 251 f.b.; Index, 1 v.

DOCKETS AND FEE BOOKS

Probate Judgment Docket, November, 1837–July, 1840, 1 v.

Name of estate and claimant, amount of claim and fees, order of court and date are given. The volume is labeled "Ledger."

Probate Judgment Docket, 1859–date, 22 v. (A–V)

Probate Execution Docket [?], 1859–1872, 1 v. (A)

Probate Court Ledger, 1870–date, 2 v. (A–B)

These are records of claims allowed against estates, giving date of order, and reference to probate journal.

Probate Fee Book, 1850–1855, 2 v.; 1866–date, 18 v.

RECORDS OF WILLS, BONDS, AND LETTERS

Record of Wills, 1821–date, 4 v. (A–D)

Administrators' Record, January, 1861–date, 7 v. (A–G)

Record of Administrators' Bonds, Oaths, and Letters, 1852–1856, 1 v. (A)

Executors' Record, 1870–date, 3 v. (B–D)

Guardians' Record, 1858–date, 6 v. (B–G)

Volume B is labeled "Guardians' Bonds."

INVENTORIES, APPRAISEMENTS, SALE BILLS, ETC.

Inventory Record, 1869–date, 4 v. (A–D)

Guardians' Inventory Record, 1875–date, 2 v. (A–B)

Appraisement Record, 1869–date, 7 v. (A–G)

Sale Bill Record, August, 1859–date, 5 v. (A–E)

Report Record, 1870–1884, 3 v. (A–C)

Administrators' and Executors' Report Record, 1884–date, 3 v. (D–F)

Guardians' Report Record, 1884–date, 3 v. (E–G)

Contents: reports of money received and paid out, etc.

Widows' Relinquishment and Selection Record, 1869–date, 3 v. (A–C)

Record of Petitions to Sell Real Estate to Pay Debts, February, 1850–March, 1859, 1 v.

This is a record of court orders and proceedings on petitions to sell real estate. The volume is labeled "Record EE."

Real Estate Sale Record, 1896–date, 1 v. (1)

Decree of court and report of sale are recorded.

Clerk of the Circuit Court

CIRCUIT COURT RECORDS

Circuit Court Record: Chancery, Common Law, and Criminal, 1821–1869, 8 v. (A–H); Common Law, 1869–date, 4 v.; Criminal, 1870–date, 3 v.; Chancery, 1869–date, 10 v.; Partition, 1891–date, 2 v.

Plaintiffs' Index to Court Record, 1821–1857, 1 v. (A)

Index to Court Record, 1858–date, 4 v. each for plaintiff and defendant.

Circuit Court Files, 1823–date, 184 f.b.

Common law, chancery, and criminal cases are filed together.

Index to Court Files, 1821–date, 3 v. each for plaintiff and defendant.

Masters' Record, 1878–1893, 1 v. (A)

The record contains title of case, reference to fee book and to court record, report of sale, date of sale and amount, description of property sold, memoranda as to notices, sale, and redemption, etc., amount of costs and fees.

DOCKETS, FEE BOOKS, ETC.

Judges' Docket, 1859–1883, 11 v.; 1890–date, 8 v.

Lien and Satisfaction Docket (docket of mechanics' liens), 1887–date, 2 v. (1–2)

Judgment Docket, 1856–date, 7 v. (A–G)

Execution Docket, 1822–1902, 5 v. (A–B, E–G)

Fee Book, 1867–date, 18 v. (A–R)

Justice of the Peace Transcript Record, 1852–1871, 1 v.; 1871–date, 2 v. (A–B)

The first volume is labeled "Record Book B."

Register of Jurors, 1869–date, 1 v.

States Attorneys' Report Record, 1873–date, 1 v.

Circuit Clerk—Recorder

DEED AND MORTGAGE RECORD

Entry Book, 1872–date, 6 v. (A–F)

Deed Record, 1821–date, 71 v. (A–Z, 1–45)

Mortgage Record, 1848–date, 39 v. (A–Z, 1–13)

General Index (grantor), 1821–1888, 1 v.

General Index (grantor and grantee), 1888–date, 5 v. (A–E)

The general index, 1821–1888, gives only names of parties and reference to record, but from 1888 to date it gives also the kind of instrument, date, consideration paid, description of property, etc.

Mortgage Index, 1880–date, 3 v. each for mortgagor and mortgagee.

Plat Record, 1888–date, 1 v. (1)

Oil and Gas Lease Record, 1906–date, 13 v.; Index (grantor and grantee), 1 v.

Chattel Mortgage Record, 1880–date, 5 v. (A–E)

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Sheriffs' Certificate Record, 1842–1892, 3 v.

Master in Chancery Record, 1886–date, 1 v. (1)

Miscellaneous Record, 1880–date, 8 v. (A–H)

School Land Sale Record, 1836–1850, 1 v.

This contains record of sale of school lands, giving date of sale, name and residence of purchaser, number of acres, and price.

LEE COUNTY[1]

The county was set off from Ogle in 1839; the county seat is Dixon. The courthouse is fireproof and the current records are kept in vault offices with steel fixtures. Older records are in two large vault storerooms entered only from the floor above.

County Clerk

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' AND SUPERVISORS' RECORDS

County Commissioners' and Supervisors' Record, 1839–1852, 2 v.; 1850–1864, 2 v.; 1864–date, 7 v. (B–H)

Supervisors' Papers, 1860–recent dates, in cupboard.

Register of County Orders, 1859–1877, 1 v.; 1892–1898, 1 v.; 1893–1903, 1 v.

A register of county orders is now kept in the supervisors' record.

Register of County Orders Countersigned, 1878–1892, 1 v.

Register of Notes and Bonds, Drainage Fund, 1862–1870, 1 v.

Treasurers' Accounts, 1857–1866, 1 v.

Register of County Bonds Retired, 1 v.

Treasurers' Accounts, Refunding Fund, 1875, 1 v.

Jury List, 1872–date, 2 v.

COUNTY COURT RECORDS

County Court Record, 1872–date, 2 v.

County Court Files (common law and criminal), 24 f.b.

Special Assessment Record, 1909–date, 1 v.

Adoption Record, 1895–date, 2 v.

Insanity Record, 1871–date, 1 v.

Insane and Conservators' Record, 1888–date, 2 v.

Findings and Orders, Lunacy Commission, 1893–date, 2 v.

Naturalization Record: Final Certificate, 1867–1882, 1886–1904, 1903–1906, 3 v. (A, D, E); Minors, 1875–1901,

[1] Examined July–August, 1912; reëxamined April, 1914.

1903–1906, 2 v. (B–C); Declaration of Intention, 1880–1906, 1 v. (C)

Miscellaneous Court Record, 1867–date, 2 v.

This contains probate and other business.

Judges' Docket, 1872–date, 1 v.

Judgment Docket, 1872–1906, 1 v.

Execution Docket, 1872–date, 1 v.

Insanity Docket, 1893–date, 2 v.

County Judges' Docket of Estates on which Inheritance Tax is Levied, 1898–1906, 1 v.

The headings are: estate, appraisers, when appointed, date of report, parties notified, date and amount of bond, bondsmen, and remarks.

County Court Fee Book, 1872–date, 2 v.

TAXATION RECORDS

Aggregate of Footings [Abstract of Assessments], 1900–1906, 1 v.; 1895–1904, 1 v.

Docket of Rates and Amounts Wanted, 1876–date, 3 v.

Plats of School Districts, 1899–date, 1 v.

Road Tax Lists, recent dates.

Tax Levies, 1860–date, in cupboard.

Assessors' Books, 1847–date.

Collectors' Books, 1850–date.

Railroad Tax Book, 1872–date, 4 v.; 1898–1899, a series of volumes, one for each township.

Telegraph and Telephone Tax Book, 1884–date, 3 v.

Record of Collectors' Credits, and of Errors and Abatements, 1861–1872, 1 v.; 1877–1883, 1 v.

Tax Judgment Record, 1850–1854, 1 v.; 1852–1861, 1 v.; 1859–1861, 1 v.; 1862–1867, 1 v.; 1868–1873, 2 v.; 1873–1880, 4 v.

Petitions for Tax Judgment, 1858–1859, in folios; 1873–1879, 4 v.

Record of Sales for Taxes, 1855–1865, 3 v.

Tax Sale and Redemption Record, 1889–date, 1 v.

Forfeiture Record, 1873–1878, 1 v.

Tax Judgment, Sale, Redemption, and Forfeiture Record, 1880–date, 11 v.

Record of Affidavits for Tax Deeds, 1862–date, 5 v. (B–F)

Affidavits for Tax Deeds, 1863 *et seq.*, in cupboard.

Treasurers' Settlements with Towns for Tax, 1873–date, 4 v. (6–9)

RECORDS OF VITAL STATISTICS

Record of Marriages, 1839–date, 3 v. (A–C)

Register of Marriages, 1878–date.

The board of health form is used.

Record of Applications for Marriage License, 1905–date, 4 v. (1–4)

Marriage Licenses, 1847–1900, 50 f.b.

Current licenses are in packages.

Register of Births, 1878–date, 4 v. (1–4)

Register of Deaths, 1878–date, 5 v. (1–5)

Record of Coroners' Death Certificates, 1910–date, 1 v.

Record of Physicians' Certificates, 1877–date, 2 v.

Register of Physicians and Accoucheurs, 1877–date, 1 v.

Record of Dental Certificates, 1897–date, 2 v.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Election Returns and Poll Books, 1839–date, in cupboard.

Record of Bonds of Constables and Justices of the Peace, 1873–date, 2 v.

Assessors' and Supervisors' of Assessment Bond Record, 1899–date, 1 v.

Record of Official Bonds, Oaths, and Appointments, 1861–date, 2 v.

Militia Roll Record, 1861–1862, 1 v.

Register of Lee County Volunteers, 1862–1864, 1 v.

Register of War Bonds, Lee County, 1862–1865, 1 v.

Estray Record, 1861–1898, 1 v.

Financial Reports of County Officers, 1873–1883, 1 v.

Reports of Fines Received from Justices of the Peace and Others, 1889–date, 2 v.

Accounts with Physicians for Births and Deaths, 1902–1903, 1 v. each for births and deaths; 1903–date, 1 v.

County Clerks' Register of Receipts and Expenditures, 1874–date, 3 v.

Register of Highway Commissioners, 1862–1883, 1 v.

School District Record, 1853–1880, 1 v.

Proceedings of commissioners, etc. are recorded.

Drainage Record, 1851–date, 2 v.

This contains a list of swamp lands of 1851, but mainly dates from the late eighties.

Record of Swamp Lands, 1850 *et seq.*, 2 v.; 1856, 1 v.

Lists, prices, etc. are recorded in the first volumes. The volume for 1856 contains records of sales.

Justice of the Peace Dockets, 1839–recent dates, 15 v.

County Clerk—Probate

PROBATE COURT RECORDS

Probate Court Record, 1839–date, 29 v. (A–Z, 27–29)

This contains reports of administrators, guardians, and conservators, etc.

Probate Record, 1847–1855, 1 v.

Contents: bonds and letters, inventories, appraisements, and sale bills.

Probate Judgment Record, 1867–1877, 1 v.

This is a printed-form court record.

Order Book, 1854–date, v. E–39.

This record is labeled intermittently "Order Book," "Court Record" and "Probate Court Journal." In the earlier period it is impossible to disentangle this series from the court record.

Probate Files, 1839–date, 201 f.b.; Index, 1 v.

DOCKETS AND FEE BOOKS

Probate Court Docket, 1854–1855, 1 v.

Probate Judges' Docket, 1875–date, 19 v. (A–S)

Probate Estate Docket, 1852–1877, 1 v.; 1882–1888, 1 v.

Probate Judgment Docket, 1859–date, 9 v. (A–I); Index to v. A–F, 2 v.

Probate Fee Book, 1853–date, 8 v. (A–H)

Guardians' and Conservators' Fee Book, 1897–date, 2 v.

RECORDS OF WILLS, BONDS, AND LETTERS

Record of Wills, 1848–date, 9 v. (A–I)

Record of Affidavit of Notice for Creditors to Appear, 1867–1875, 1 v.

Administrators' Record, 1858–date, 7 v. (A–G)

Executors' Record, 1858–date, 5 v. (A–E)

Guardians' Record, 1858–date, 3 v. (A–C)

Record of Testamentary Trusteeship, 1906–date, 1 v.

The form includes proof of trusteeship established by a will, and proceedings to fulfil requirements, etc.

Administrators' Record with Will Annexed, 1899–date, 1 v.

Administrators' Record de Bonis Non, 1880–date, 2 v.
Miscellaneous Bond Record, 1874–1876, 1 v.

This volume contains forms for additional bonds, bonds of administrator de bonis non and to collect, etc. There are only half a dozen entries.

INVENTORIES, APPRAISEMENTS, SALE BILLS, ETC.

Inventory Record, 1859–date, 8 v. (A–H)
Guardians' and Conservators' Inventory Record, 1872–date, 2 v.
Appraisement Record, 1858–date, 6 v. (A–F)
Sale Record, 1858–date, 4 v. (A–D); Public Sale Record, 1894–date, 1 v., extra "C."
Account Current Record, 1851–1858, 1 v.
Probate Ledger, 1860–1870, 1 v.
Widows' Relinquishment and Selection Record, 1896–date, 3 v. (A–C)
Record of Proceedings on Petition to Sell Real Estate, 1867–1876, 1 v.

Clerk of the Circuit Court

CIRCUIT COURT RECORDS

Circuit Court Record: Common Law, 1840–date, 19 v. (A–S); Index, 1 v.; Criminal, 1868–date, 8 v. (1–8); Index, 1 v.; Chancery, 1852–date, 24 v. (A–X); Index, 1 v.

Chancery and criminal cases were recorded with common law cases till 1852 and 1868 respectively.

Default Record, 1858–1869, 1 v.
Record of Confession in Vacation, 1854–date, 1 v.; 1887–date, 1 v.
Circuit Court Files: Common Law, 1840–date, 160 f.b.; Criminal, 1851–date, 96 f.b.; Chancery, 1852–date, 201 f.b.

These are all in lower vault.

Naturalization Record: Declaration of Intention, 1860–1906, 2 v.; Final Certificate, 1858–1906, 2 v.; Soldiers and Minors, 1874–1896, 2 v.
Naturalization Papers, 1855–date.

DOCKETS, FEE BOOKS, ETC.

General Court Docket, 1886–date, 3 v.

Dockets, 1849–1850, 1852–1854, 1854–1855, 1856–1857, 1 v. each; 1857–1890, 19 v. (A–S); 1891–1907, 3 term dockets a year; 1909–date, loose leaf.

Judgment Docket, 1852–date, 9 v. (A–I)

Execution Docket, 1843–1852, 2 v.

Executions, 1839–recent dates, in 3 tin boxes in basement.

Fee Book, 1843–1849, 1 v.; 1845–1851, 1 v.; 1852–date, 22 v. (D–Y)

Volumes E, H, and N were not found.

Justice of the Peace Transcript Record, 1850–date, 7 v. (A–G)

Circuit Clerks' Register of Fees, 1872–date, 6 v.

Circuit Clerk—Recorder

DEED AND MORTGAGE RECORDS

Entry Book, 1839–1852, 1 v.; 1856–1860, 1 v.; 1869–date, 11 v. (B–L)

One volume, 1839–1869, is merely a memorandum of number, name, and when delivered.

Deed Record, 1838–date, 132 v. (A–Z, 1–106)

Trust Deed Record, 1858–1879, 11 v. (A–K)

Plat Book, 1874–date, 3 v.

Mortgage Record, 1840–date, 70 v. (A–Z, 27–70)

Release Record, 1860–date, 19 v. (A–S)

Grantor Index, 1857–1874, 7 v. (1–7); Grantor-Grantee Index, 1874–date, 24 v. (7–30)

Abstract Record, 16 v.; Tract Index to, 12 v.; Grantor and Grantee Index to, 4 v.

Tract Book, 4 v.

Chattel Mortgage Record, 1856–date, v. A–Z, 1 *et seq.*; Index, 1875–date, 3 v.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Record of Certificates of Levy and Sale, 1841–date, 5 v. (A–E)

Record of Masters' Certificates of Purchase, 1883–date, 1 v.

Record of Certificates of Redemption, 1847–date, 2 v.

Record of Maps and Profile of Land of Illinois Central railroad in the county, 2 v.

Surveys, 1873–date, 1 v.

Field Notes, 1870, 1 v.

Collectors' Bond Record, 1862–date, 6 v.

Miscellaneous Record, 1862–date, 18 v. (A–R)

These volumes contain surveys, articles of agreements, bonds for deeds, patent deeds, etc.

Record of Powers of Attorney, 1841–date, 4 v. (A–D)

Stallion Register, 1911–date, 1 v.; Renewals, 1911–date, 1 v.

LIVINGSTON COUNTY[1]

Livingston county was formed in 1837 and contains territory formerly attached to La Salle, McLean, and Vermilion; the county seat is Pontiac. The courthouse building is hardly fireproof. The records, however, are kept in fireproof vaults constructed of brick, with concrete floors, steel shutters, and steel ceilings. The book records are on steel rollers, and the files in steel boxes.

County Clerk

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' AND SUPERVISORS' RECORDS

County Commissioners' and Supervisors' Record, 1837–date, 4 unnumbered v., and 10 v. (A–J)

Supervisors' Papers, 1858–date, 90 f.b.

Record of State and County Roads (prior to 1858), 1 v.

COUNTY COURT RECORDS

County Court Record: Common Law, 1855–date, 5 v.; Criminal, 1872–date, 3 v.; Confession, 1885–date, 1 v.; Recognizance, 1885–date, 1 v. (1)

County Court Files (common law and criminal), 1872–date, 60 f.b.

Voluntary Insolvency Record, 1878–date, 1 v. (1)

Adoption Record, 1876–date, 2 v. (1–2)

Juvenile Record, 1907–date, 1 v.

Contents: judgment of the court in the case of dependent and delinquent children.

Insanity Record, 1874–date, 4 v.

Insane and Conservators' Record, 1903–date, 1 v.

"Record of History of Insane Cases," 1902–date, 1 v.

Naturalization Record, Declaration of Intention and Final Certificate, 1858–1905, 12 v.

Judgment Docket, 1855–date, 4 v.

Docket of Fines, 1872–date, 1 v.

[1] Examined July–August, 1912; reëxamined April, 1915.

The contents include name of person fined, date of judgment, amount of fee, sheriff's return, date of payment.

County Court Fee Book: Common Law, 1855–1901, 5 v.; Criminal, 1872–1899, 2 v.; Common Law, Criminal and Miscellaneous, 1899–date, 3 v.

TAXATION RECORDS

Land Entry Book, 1852–1854, from auditor's office.
School Plats, 1875–1897, 1 v.
Assessors' Books, 1850–date, c. 1000 v. in basement.
Collectors' Books, 1849–date, 286 bound v.
Railroad Tax Book, 1858–1868, 1 v.; 1881–date, 4 v.
Telegraph and Telephone Tax Book, 1897–date, 2 v.
Board of Review Record, 1899–date, 2 v. (1–2)
Board of Review Complaint Docket, 1899–date, 2 v.
Tax Judgment Record, 1842–1852, 1 v.; 1862–1880, 5 v.
Tax Sale Record, 1855–1869, 2 v.
Tax Forfeiture Record, 1872–1880, 2 v.
Tax Judgment, Sale, Redemption, and Forfeiture Record, 1880–date.
Record of Affidavits for Tax Deeds, 1863–1907, 2 v. (1–2)

RECORDS OF VITAL STATISTICS

Marriage Register, 1837–1866, 3 v.; 1866–date, 9 v. (D–L)
Register of Births, 1877–date, 7 v.
Register of Deaths, 1878–date, 4 v.
Record of Physicians' Certificates, 1877–date, 2 v.
Register of Physicians and Accoucheurs, 1878–date, 1 v.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Certificates of Election, 1852–date, 7 f.b.
Abstract of Votes, 1838–1860, 1 f.b.
Official Bond Record, Justices of the Peace and Constables, 1872–date, 2 v. (A–B)
Assessors' Bond Record, 1899–date, 1 v.
Register of County Officials, 1842–1857, 1 v.
Militia Roll Record, 1861–1863, 1 v. [?]
Record of Marks and Brands, 1837–1874, 1 v.
Estray Record, 1849–date, 2 v.

County Clerks' Account Book, Births and Deaths, 1902, 1 v.
List of Swamp Lands, 2 v.
Abstract of Swamp Lands as Returned by County Surveyor, 1 v.
Record of Sales of Swamp Lands, 2 v.
Applications for Purchase of Swamp Lands, 1 v.
Cash Book, 1867–1876, 1 v.

County Clerk—Probate

PROBATE COURT RECORDS

Probate Record, 1838–1849, 4 v. (A–D)

These volumes include letters and bonds of administrators, inventories, appraisements and sale bills, applications for letters of administration, etc.

Probate Journal, 1838–1857, 2 v.; 1857–date, 29 v. (A–Z, 27–29)
Miscellaneous County Court Record, 1900–date, 3 v. (A–C)

The volumes contain proof of wills, special tax notices, and petitions to sell real estate to pay debts of insolvent estates.

Probate Files, 1852–date, 312 f.b.

DOCKETS AND FEE BOOKS

Probate Estate Docket, 1842–date, v. A–E
Guardians' Estate Docket, 1902–date, 1 v. (1)
Probate Fee Book, 1862–date, 14 v. (A–N)

RECORDS OF WILLS, BONDS, AND LETTERS

Record of Wills, 1867–date, 8 v. (A–H)
Administrators' Record, 1858–date, 7 v. (first not numbered, J–O)
Executors' Record, 1862–date, 5 v. (A–E)
Conservators' Record, 1887–date, 3 v.
Guardians' Record, 1858–date, 6 v. (A–F)
Probate Bond Record, 1875–date, 2 v. (A–B)

The record contains bonds of administrators de bonis non with will annexed, additional bonds, etc.

Record of Letters and Bonds of Administrators and Guardians, 1850–1859, 1 v. (G)

INVENTORIES, APPRAISEMENTS, SALE BILLS, ETC.

Inventory Record, 1859–date, 11 v. (A–K)

Appraisement Record, 1858–date, 8 v. (A–H)

Sale Record, 1859–1870, 1 v.; 1870–date, 7 v. (A–G)

Real estate sales, and personal property sales, both public and private, are recorded.

Copartnership Inventory and Appraisement Record, 1877–date, 3 v.

Miscellaneous Probate Record, 1866–1872, 1 v. [?]

The volume is an inventory appraisement and sale bill record.

Record of Accounts Current, 1847–date, 4 v. (A–D)

Conservators' Report Record, 1886–date, 1 v. (A)

Final Report Record, 1870–date, 15 v. (A–O)

Insolvency Estate Record, 1876–date, 1 v. (A)

The volume records condition of estate, amount of debts against it, amount available, and court order.

Widow's Relinquishment and Selection Record, 1860–date, 6 v. (A–F)

Clerk of the Circuit Court

CIRCUIT COURT RECORDS

Circuit Court Record: Common Law, 1839–date, 25 v. (1–25); Criminal, 1870–date, 6 v. (15–20); Chancery, 1862–date, 25 v. (1–25)

Prior to 1870 and 1862 respectively, criminal and chancery records were kept in the common law series.

Miscellaneous Circuit Court Record, 1855–date, 13 v. (1–13)

Contents: affidavits, court proceedings from other counties, corporation records, etc.

Circuit Court Files (common law, criminal, and chancery), 1839–date, 429 f.b.

Naturalization Record, 1853–date, 7 v. (A–E, 1–2)

DOCKETS, FEE BOOKS, ETC.

Judges' Docket, 1858–1907, 3 v. a year; 1908–date, loose leaf.

Judgment and Execution Docket, 1839–date, 18 v. (A–R)

Fee Book, 1839–date: Common Law and Chancery, 29 v. (1–29); Criminal, 7 v. (1–7)

Justice of the Peace Transcript Record, 1852–date, 4 v. (1–4)

Coroners' Record, 1877–date, 2 v. (A–B)

Circuit Clerk—Recorder

DEED AND MORTGAGE RECORDS

Entry Book, 1837–date, 19 v. (1–19)
Deed Record, 1838–date, 169 v. (A–Z, 27–169); Grantor and Grantee Index complete.
Mortgage Record, 1859–date, 106 v. (A–Z, 27–106); Mortgagor and Mortgagee Index complete.
Plat Book, 2 v. (1–2)
Index to Land Sections and Town Lots, 14 v.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Record of Masters' and Sheriffs' Certificates of Purchase, Levy, and Sale, 1855–date, 5 v. (1–5)
Plats of Resurveys, 3 v. (1–3)
Record of United States Surveys, 1875, 1 v.
Surveyors' Record, 1843–date, 3 v. (1–3)
Record of Soldiers' Discharges, 1865–1899, 1 v.
Stallion Register, 1911–date, 2 v.

LOGAN COUNTY[1]

Logan county was established in 1839 from Sangamon and organized the following April; it was enlarged by acts of 1840 and 1845 from Tazewell and De Witt. The county seat is Lincoln. The courthouse is fireproof with large vaults which are kept in good order. A separate storage vault is used. The records were almost completely destroyed by a fire in 1857.

County Clerk

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' AND SUPERVISORS' RECORDS

County Court Record, May, 1857–June, 1867, 2 v. (1–2), not indexed.

Supervisors' Record, May, 1867–date, 10 v. (A–J)

County Court Papers, 1857–1867, in 3 f.b., in vault.

Supervisors' Papers, 1867–date, 280 f.b.

Register of County Orders, 1866–date, 8 v. (B–I)

Surveyors' Record, 1880–1881, 1 v.

The record contains field notes and plats of certain tracts ordered surveyed by board of supervisors, 1880–1881.

Jury List, 1872–date, 3 v. (A–C)

COUNTY COURT RECORDS

County Court Record, 1872–date: Common Law, 3 v. (1–3); Criminal, 1 v.

Default Record, 1872–1886, 1 v. (1)

Confession Record, 1892–date, 1 v. (A)

County Court Files, 1872–date, 42 f.b.

Index to County Court Records, 1872–date, 2 v. each for plaintiff and defendant.

Record of Special Assessment Rolls, c. 1901–date, 2 v.

Drainage Record, 1886–date, 2 v. (1–2)

Assignment Record, 1872–1899, 1 v. (1)

The volume contains inventory of goods, etc., and list of debts; also bond of assignee.

[1] Examined February, 1912.

Record of Dependent, Neglected, or Delinquent Children, 1907–date, 1 v. (1)

This is a record of proceedings and judgment of the court. Prior to 1907 similar cases were entered in the miscellaneous record.

Adoption and Apprenticeship Papers, 1857–date, 3 f.b.

Insanity Record, 1856–date, 3 v. (A–C)

Index to Insanity Record, 1857–date, 1 v.

Insane Asylum Reports, 1896–date, 1 f.b.

These are reports on condition of inmates.

Naturalization Record, 1873–1906, 5 v.

Naturalization Papers, 1857–1906, 5 f.b.

Judges' Docket, 1872–date, 8 v.

Judgment Docket, 1872–1895, 1 v.

Execution Docket, 1872–1895, 1 v. (1)

Judgment and Execution Docket, 1895–date, 1 v. (2)

Insanity Docket, 1893–date, 2 v. (1–2)

County Court Fee Book, 1872–date: Common Law, 4 v.; Criminal, 3 v.

TAXATION RECORDS

Abstract of Assessments, 1905–date, 1 f.b.

Assessment and Statement of Taxes, 1871–1888, 1 v.

Land Entry Book, 1830–1868, 1 v.

Tax Levies, 1856–date, 20 f.b.

These are certificates of levy for school, road, county, and other taxes.

Railroad Tax Papers, 1857–date, 8 f.b.

Assessors' Books, 1857–date,

Collectors' Books, 1857–date.

Railroad Tax Books, 1868–date.

Delinquent Tax Lists, 1869–1910.

Board of Review Record, 1899–date, 3 v. (1–3)

Board of Review Complaint Docket, 1899–date, 2 v. (1–2)

Board of Review Papers, 1899–date, 2 f.b.

Tax Judgment Record, 1857–1864, 1 v.

Tax Sale and Redemption Record, 1857–1880, 9 v.

Tax Judgment, Sale, Redemption, and Forfeiture Record, 1881–date, 32 v.

Record of Affidavits for Tax Deeds, 1860–date, 2 v. (1–2)

Tax Sale Certificates, 1862–1866, 1867, 1873, 1875, 1876, 1882–1884, 1893–date, 5 f.b.

Affidavits for Tax Deeds, 1857–date, 2 f.b.

RECORDS OF VITAL STATISTICS

Marriage Record, April, 1857–February, 1908, 4 v. (1–4)

The record contains date and number of license, names of parties, when and by whom married, and when recorded.

Register of Marriages, 1878–date, 3 v. (1–3)

Board of health form is used.

Marriage Licenses, 1857–date, 18 f.b.

Applications and Affidavits for Marriage License, 1866–date, 10 f.b.

Register of Births, 1878–date, 6 v.

Register of Still Births, 1878–date, 1 v.

Register of Deaths, 1878–date, 6 v.

Birth Reports, 1878–date, 13 f.b.

Death Reports, 1878–date, 7 f.b.

Reports of Coroners' Inquests, 1857–date, 2 f.b.

Census of Logan County, 1860, 1 v., L.V.

The contents include name, age, sex, value of property, place of birth, number of children in school, and number of persons over twenty-one years unable to read and write.

Physicians' Certificate Record, 1877–date, 3 v.

Record of Dental Certificates, 1893–date, 1 v. (1)

Veterinary Surgeons' License Record, 1906–date, 1 v.

Architects' License Record, 1897–1909, 1 v. (1)

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Election Abstracts and Tally Sheets, 1892–date, 4 f.b.

Poll Books, 1858–1885, 7 f.b.

Primary Election Petitions, etc., 1906, 1908, 1910, 1 f.b.

Assessors' Bond Record, 1899–date, 1 v. (1)

Register of Notaries, 1899–date, 1 v.

The volume registers name, date commissioned, and date of expiration of term, etc.

Register of Township Officers Elected, 1857–date, 4 v. (1–4)

Soldiers' Bounty Record, 1863–1865, 1 v.

The volume records name of volunteer, name of company, whether married or single, person to whom bounty is payable, with his address, date, and amount of bounty paid. The bounty papers are in 2 f.b. (541–542)

Militia Roll Record, 1861–1862, 1 v. (A)

Record of Marks and Brands, 1857–1899, 1 v., L.V.

Estray Record, 2 v. (1–2)

Horse Certificate Record, 1892–1897, 1 v.

Description and pedigree of horses are recorded.

Record of Blind Pensioners, 1903–date, 1 v.

Name of pensioner and amount of pension are recorded.

County Clerks' Register of Fees, 1887–date, 2 v. (1–2)

County Clerk—Probate

PROBATE COURT RECORDS

Probate Journal, 1857–date, 28 v. (1–28)

These volumes are ordinary probate records of court decrees, orders, etc., including such matters as conservatorships and adoptions. Up to 1886, guardians', executors', and other reports of settlement were also recorded in this series.

Index to Executors and Administrators, 1857–date, 1 v.

Contents: name of estate, name of administrator or executor, reference to the various records, and to the original files.

Index to Guardians and Conservators, 1857–date, 1 v.

Contents as above.

Proof of Heirship Record, 1911–date, 1 v. (1)

Order and findings of court in case of unknown or disputed heirship are recorded.

Probate Files, 1857–date, 145 f.b.

Estates, guardianships, and other probate papers are filed together chronologically. Unsettled estates are filed separately under letters of alphabet.

DOCKETS AND FEE BOOKS

Probate Judges' Docket, 1893–date, 10 v. (A–J)

Estate Docket, October, 1910–date, 1 v. (A)

Claim Docket, 1907–date, 1 v.

The volume contains name of claimant, amount and date of claims, judgment of court, etc.

Execution Docket, 1858–1883, 1 v. (1)

This is a record of executions against estates in favor of claimants.

Probate Fee Book, 1857–date, 13 v. (1–13)

RECORDS OF WILLS, BONDS, AND LETTERS

Will Record, 1855–date, 7 v. (1–7)

Administrators' Record, 1857–date, 5 v. (1–5)

The record includes letters, oaths, and bonds.

Executors' Record, 1884–date, 3 v. (4–6)

The record contains bonds, oaths, and letters, and is labeled "Executors' Bond Record."

Guardians' Record, 1857–date, 5 v. (1–5)

Record of Administrators' and Guardians' Bonds to Sell Real Estate, 1894–date, 1 v. (1)

Miscellaneous Bond Record, 1893–date, 2 v.

A record of bonds of administrators de bonis non, etc.

INVENTORIES, APPRAISEMENTS, AND SALE BILLS

Inventory, Appraisement, and Sale Bill Record, 1857–1892, 7 v. (1–7)

Inventory Record, 1894–date, 4 v. (9–12)

Conservators' and Guardians' Inventory Record, 1873–1901, 1 v. (1)

Guardians' Inventory Record, 1902–date, 1 v. (2)

Conservators' Inventory Record, 1902–date, 1 v. (2)

Appraisement Bill Record, 1892–date, 5 v. (8–12)

Sale Bill Record, 1889–date, 4 v. (8–11)

REPORT RECORDS, ETC.

Administrators' and Executors' Report Record, 1887–date, 6 v. (1–6)

Conservators' Report Record, 1901–date, 1 v. (1)

Items of receipts and amounts paid out are recorded.

Guardians' Report Record, 1887–date, 4 v. (1–4)

Probate Ledger, 1859–c. 1878, 1 v.

The ledger contains accounts of the total amount of receipts and expenditures and reference to record.

Estate Ledger, 1876–1885, 1 v.

The contents are similar to those of the above ledger, but the amounts paid claimants are recorded item by item and not in total sum; names of claimants are also given.

Widows' Relinquishment and Selection Record, 1896–date, 2 v. (1–2)

Miscellaneous Record, 1886–date, 4 v.

The volume contains miscellaneous probate and county court matter—bonds, oaths, etc., and various court petitions.

Clerk of the Circuit Court

CIRCUIT COURT RECORDS

Circuit Court Record: Chancery, September, 1860–date, 30 v.; Criminal, September, 1860–date 9 v.; Common Law, September, 1857–date, 16 v.

The first four volumes of the common law series contain chancery and criminal records from September, 1857 to September, 1860.

Record of Defaults, 1859–date, 2 v. (1–2)

Index to Court Records, 1857–date: Common Law, 3 v. each for plaintiff and defendant; Chancery, 2 v. each for plaintiff and defendant.

The headings are number of file, parties, kind of action, date commenced, reference to page of record, term disposed of, date of judgment, reference to records, fee books, etc., and reference to number of filingbox.

Circuit Court Files, 1857–date: Chancery, 182 f.b.; Common Law, 190 f.b.; Criminal, 45 f.b.

Naturalization Record: Soldiers and Minors, 1866–1893, 1 v.; Declaration of Intention, 1859–1906, 2 v.; Final Certificate, 1859–1890, 3 v.

Judges' Docket (common law, chancery, and criminal), September, 1860–January, 1908, 33 v.

Loose leaf since 1908.

Judgment Docket, 1857–date, 11 v.

Mechanics' Lien Index (docket of mechanics' liens), 1888–date, 1 v.

Fee Book, 1858–date, 40 v. (1–40)

Transcripts of Foreign Judgments, 1891–date, 1 v. (1)

A record of transcripts of judgments of other courts.

Justice of the Peace Transcript Record, 1877–date, 3 v. (2–4)

Register of Fees Received, 1884–date, 2 v. (1–2)

Circuit Clerk—Recorder

DEED AND MORTGAGE RECORDS

File Books (entry books), April, 1839–April, 1848, 1 v.; April, 1854–October, 1859, 3 v. (3–5)

The volumes contain names of parties, kind of instrument and number, when filed, where recorded (book and page), descriptions of land, boundaries, etc., and amount of fee paid.

Entry Book, November, 1879–date, 7 v. (1–7)

Record of Transcripts, 1826–1839, 1 v. (1)

The volume contains transcripts of records in Sangamon county relating to lands in Logan county.

Deed Record, 1845–January, 1850, 2 v. (C–D); March, 1853–date, 112 v. (H–Z, 1–93)

Volumes A, B, E, F, and G were destroyed when the courthouse burned in 1857.

Mortgage Record, 1854–date, 77 v. (B–Z and 1–52)

The series contains mortgages, trust deeds, releases, etc., and (in the earlier volumes) chattel mortgages. Volume A was destroyed in the fire of 1857.

Assignment of Mortgage Record, 1867–date, 2 v. (1–2)

Plat Book, 1870–date, 3 v.

General Index, 1838–1885, 7 v. each for grantor and grantee.

Mortgage Index, 1869–1885, 3 v. each for grantor and grantee.

Alphabetical Index, 1886–date, 23 v. each for deed and mortgage series.

Chattel Mortgage Record, 1896–date, 15 v. (33–47)

Chattel Mortgage Index, 1896–date, 2 v. (8–9)

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Record of Certificates of Levy, Sale, and Redemption, 1857–date, 6 v.

Record of Discharged Soldiers, 1865–1908, 1 v.

Collectors' Bond Record, 1867–date, 5 v. (A–E)

Stallion Register 1910–date, 1 v.; Renewals, 1911–date, 1 v.

Miscellaneous Record, 1857–date, 9 v. (1–9)

The volumes contain certificates of election of trustees of lodges, churches, etc., bonds for deeds, leases, articles of agreement, powers of attorney, various affidavits, copies of wills, etc.

COUNTY SUPERINTENDENTS' RECORDS

Poll Books for Election of School Trustees, 1843–1863, in county superintendent's vault.

Annual Report of Condition of the Common Schools in Logan County, October, 1859–date.

These reports are made out in duplicate; one copy is sent to superintendent of public instruction, and one kept by county superintendent.

School Census, c. 1845–1855, 1 v.

Enumeration by township treasurers of number of children of school age in the various townships.

School Commissioners' Record, 1839–1855, 1 v. in county superintendent's vault.

Contents: sale of lands, copies of petitions for sales, financial accounts, etc. The volume is not labeled.

School Commissioners' Cash Books, 1840–c. 1867, 2 v.

The volumes contain accounts of money loaned, interest on loans, etc.

MACON COUNTY[1]

Macon county was formed in 1829 from unorganized territory attached to Shelby, and was enlarged from Sangamon in 1839; the county seat is Decatur. The external protections to the records in this county are slight. The courthouse is not fireproof, and there are no vaults. The records and papers are well arranged and indexed.

County Clerk

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' AND SUPERVISORS' RECORDS

County Commissioners' Court Record, May, 1829–December, 1849, 2 v (1–2)

The volume contains record of roads, lists of grand and petit jurors, lists of orders on treasurer, licenses issued, tax rates, etc. Volume 2, 1840–1849, is labeled "Probate Court Record AAA," but contains no probate records.

County Court Record, March, 1850–April, 1860, 1 v.

Supervisors' Record, April, 1860–date, 9 v. (1–9)

Supervisors' Papers, April, 1840–date, 78 f.b.

Road Papers, 1829–1866, 2 f.b.

The files contain petitions, reports of viewers, road supervisors, etc.

Register of County Orders on Treasurer, 1890–date, 3 v. (B–D)

Register of Railroad, Courthouse, and Other County Bonds, 1880–date, 1 v.

The register gives date, number and amount of bond, when due, rate of interest, and when paid.

Jury List, 1872–date, 3 v.

COUNTY COURT RECORDS

Court Record, February, 1857–October, 1859, 1 v.

This is a 42 p. volume containing records of insolvent debtors, showing schedules of assets and liabilities.

Common Law and Criminal Record, 1872–date, 9 v.

Judgment Record, 1893–date, 1 v. (A)

This is a record of judgments by default and confession.

[1] Examined February, 1912.

County Court Files, 1872–date: Common Law, 38 f.b.; Criminal, 46 f.b.

Index to Court Record, 1872–date, 2 v. each for plaintiff and defendant.

Drainage Record, 1882–date, 2 v. (1–2)

This is a record of proceedings of drainage commissioners.

Assignment Inventory Record, 1878–1898, 2 v.

Adoption Record, 1908–date, 1 v. (1)

The volume contains petition for adoption, consent of parents, order of court, etc.

Adoption Papers, 1838–1882, 1 f.b.

Sundry Index, 1 v.

This is an index to insanity cases, adoptions, dependent and delinquent children's cases, etc.

Insane and Conservators' Record, 1871–date, 3 v.

Insanity Record: Trial by Commission, 1895–date, 1 v.; Trial by Jury, 1906–date, 1 v. (D)

Naturalization Record, 1872–1906, 10 v.

Naturalization Papers, 1860–1906, 6 f.b.

County Court Docket, 1872–date: Common Law, 3 v.; Criminal, 8 v.

Judgment Docket, 1872–date, 2 v. (1–2)

Execution Docket, 1872–date, 2 v. (1–2)

Record of Inmates of Asylums and Schools, c. 1893–date, 1 v.

The record contains names of inmates, name of asylum or school, date committed, and date of discharge or death; remarks, and reference to papers on file in office.

Docket of Official Bonds, 1883–1890, 1 v. (1)

TAXATION RECORDS

Statement of Assessment, 1859–date, 2 f.b.

Record of Road and School Plats, 1857–1883, 2 v.

Land Entry Book, c. 1830–1872, 1 v.; copy of the above, 1 v.

Certificates of Tax Levies, 1850–date, 9 f.b.

Road Tax Lists, 1850–date, 18 f.b.

Railroad Schedules of Values, 1860–date, 9 f.b.

Telegraph and Telephone Schedules, 1897–1902, 1 f.b.

Assessors' Books, 1841–date.

Collectors' Books, 1845–date.

Telegraph and Telephone Tax Books, 1885–date.
Tax Judgment Record, 1849–1879, 5 v. (1, A–D)
Tax Sale Record, 1838–1879, 6 v. (1, 2, A–D)
Tax Judgment, Sale, Redemption, and Forfeiture Record, 1880–date, 29 v.
Record of Affidavits for Tax Deeds, 1851–1862, 1 v.; 1883–1903, 2 v. (1–2)
Affidavits for Tax Deeds, 1850–date, 5 f.b.

RECORDS OF VITAL STATISTICS

Marriage Record, June, 1829–January, 1870, 1 v.; Index (by male), 1 v.
Contents: names of parties, date married, and name of officer.
Marriage Register, 1870–January, 1878, 1 v. (A)
The volume records date of license, names, when married, and by whom, and where recorded.
Register of Marriages, 1878–date, 5 v. (B–F)
The board of health form is used.
Index to Marriages, 1870–date, 2 v. each for male and female.
Applications for Marriage License, 1869–1883, 1 f.b.
Record of Applications for Marriage License, 1883–date, 28 v.
Marriage Licenses, 1829–date, 100 f.b.
Register of Births, 1877–date, 9 v. (A–I); Index, 1 v.
The volume contains a record of still births also.
Register of Deaths, 1877–date, 6 v. (1–6); Index, 1 v.
Birth Reports, 1887–date, 8 f.b.
Death Reports, 1887–date, 8 f.b.
Record of Physicians' Certificates, 1878–date, 2 v.
Record of Certificates of Registered Nurses, 1910–date, 1 v. (1)
Register of Physicians and Accoucheurs, 1878–date, 1 v.
Agricultural Statistics, 1877–1882, 1 v. (1)
Census of Macon County, 1850, 1860, 1870.
These records are in back room of office, on a lower shelf near window.
Census of United States; Abstract of Sixth Census, 1840; Statistical Abstract of Census, 1870.
These are in back room of office.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Poll Books, Tally Lists, Abstracts of Votes, etc., 1829–1888, 17 f.b.
1889–date are in cupboard of case 3.

Assessors' Bond Record, 1899–date, 1 v.

Register of County Officers, 1860–date, 3 v. (1–3)

List of officers and term of office are given.

Militia Roll Record, 1861–1862, 1 v. (1)

Estray Record, 1849–1902, 2 v.

Estray Notices, 1829–date, 2 f.b.

Register of Pedigrees (of horses), 1888–1908, 1 v.

Miscellaneous Reports of County Officers, 1873–date, 12 f.b.

These are reports of county superintendent, county clerk, circuit clerk, states' attorney, superintendent of poor farm, etc.

Miscellaneous Record, 1900–date, 1 v. (A)

The contents include agreements, miscellaneous bonds of sheriff, coroner, clerks, etc., powers of attorney, estray notices, etc.

County Clerk—Probate

PROBATE COURT RECORDS

Order Book of Probate Court, October, 1831–January, 1839, 1 v.

The contents for 1831–May, 1837, are wills, inventories, appraisements, and sale bills, settlements, etc.; for October, 1838–January, 1839, guardians' letters, bonds, etc.

Probate Record, 1831–1838, 1 v.

Letters of administration, oaths, bonds and wills are recorded.

Probate Court Record, November, 1835–April, 1845, 1 v.

Wills, letters, oaths, inventories, appraisement and sale bills, claims filed against estates and judgment of court thereon, reports of administrators, and accounts current are recorded.

Probate Court Record, September, 1844–December, 1849, 1 v.

The volumes record claims and judgments, current accounts, letters of guardianship, etc., and miscellaneous court orders.

"Probate Record, Letters of Administration, Wills, Bonds" (Book A), December, 1843–October, 1846, in circuit clerk's vault.

Probate Court Record, 1849–date, 40 v. (A–Z, 1–14), indexed after 1882 (v. L)

Court proceedings and decrees on claims, petitions, etc. are recorded.

Record of Proof of Heirship, 1904–date, 1 v. (1)

Probate Files, 1831–date, 301 f.b., in vault.

Estates, guardianships, conservatorships, etc. are filed together.

Index to Probate Files: Estates, 1 v.; Guardianships, 1 v.

Record of Judgment on Claims, 1860–date, 11 v. (A–K)

The volumes contain records of judgments on claims tried by court, giving estate and claimant, amount of claim, reference to docket, etc.

Index to v. G–K of above: direct index (by estate), 1 v.; indirect index (by claimant), 1 v.

DOCKETS AND FEE BOOKS

Probate Judges' Docket, 1856–date, 18 v. (1–18)

Insane and Conservators' Ledger, 1898–date, 2 v. (2–3)

Name of insane person, number of case and filingbox are given; also date of inquisition, date of conservator's letters and place of record; name of conservator, amount of bond, and place recorded; names of sureties; inventory, sales, etc.; accounts; and general remarks.

Guardians' Estate Docket, 1883–date, 1 v. (1)

Names of guardian and of ward, date of letters, age of ward, amount of inventory, date of settlements and amount received and paid out, orders and remarks of court are registered.

Estate Ledger, 1856–date, 12 v. (A–L)

This is a combination of estate docket and claim ledger; it shows date and place of record of every proceeding in the estate, and also list of claims allowed.

Probate Fee Book, 1846–1849, 1856–date, 9 v.

Insane and Conservators' Fee Book, 1888–date, 3 v. (1–3)

RECORDS OF WILLS, BONDS, AND LETTERS

Will Record, 1846–date, 9 v. (A–I)

Record of Publication of Notice to Claimants, 1868 *et seq.*, 1 v. [?]

Administrators' Record, 1864–date, 8 v. (A–H)

"Record of Administrators' Bonds, Letters, and Guardians' Bonds," 1850–1864, 1 v.

Executors' Record, 1857–date, 5 v. (A–E)

Guardians' Record, 1866–date, 6 v. (A–F)

Letters, oaths, and bonds are recorded.

Guardians' Letters, Bonds, and Settlements, February, 1841–December, 1849, 1 v., in back room of office.

Petitions, Bonds and Letters (administrators with will annexed), 1901–date, 1 v. (B)

Bonds and Letters (miscellaneous), 1873–date, 2 v. (A–B)

The volumes contain bonds, letters, and oaths of administrators de bonis non, and administrators with will annexed.

INVENTORIES, APPRAISEMENTS, AND SALE BILLS

Record of Inventories, Appraisements and Sale Bills, April, 1841–March, 1852, 2 v. (B–C); 1853–1860, 1 v. (A)

These records were found in the back room of office, north side.

Inventory Record, 1860–date, 10 v. (A–J)

Guardians' Inventory Record, 1872–date, 2 v. (1–2)

Copartnership Inventory Record, 1880–1908, 2 v.

Appraisement Record, 1859–date, 11 v. (1–11)

Sale Bill Record, 1860–date, 8 v. (1–8)

Guardians' Sale Record, 1883–date, 1 v. (A)

REPORT RECORDS, ETC.

Report Record, 1882–date, 10 v. (A–J)

Administrators' and executors' reports.

Insolvent Estate Record, 1885–1896, 1 v.

The 30 p. of the volume that have been used contain reports of insolvency by administrator, and order of court declaring estate insolvent.

Widows' Relinquishment and Selection Record, 1883–date, 3 v. (1–3)

Record of Decree and Report on Sale of Real Estate, 1883–1898, 1 v. (1)

Record of Petition for Sale of Real Estate, 1899–date, 1 v. (1)

Record of Decree for Sale of Real Estate, 1899–date, 1 v. (2)

Real Estate Sale Record, 1908–date, 1 v. (A)

Petitions to sell real estate, reports of sale, and orders of judge are recorded.

Clerk of the Circuit Court

CIRCUIT COURT RECORDS

Circuit Court Record, 1830–1875, 16 v.; 1875–date, 61 v.

In the second series common law, chancery, and criminal records are kept in separate volumes. Since 1900 the records have been further divided, foreclosures of mortgages, decrees, etc. being kept in separate volumes. All volumes, however, are in same series and numbered consecutively.

Index to Court Record: Plaintiff, 1829–1858, 1 v. (A); Plaintiff and Defendant, 1858–date, 6 v. (B–G) each.

Circuit Court Files, 1829–date, 684 f.b.

Naturalization Record: Declaration of Intention, 1861–1884, 1 v.; Final Certificate, 1859–1876, 1 v.; Minors, 1864–1876, 1 v.;

Soldiers, 1865, 1 v. (one entry)

DOCKETS, FEE BOOKS, ETC.

Circuit Court Dockets, 1840–date.

Execution Docket, 1858–date, 14 v. (3–16)

Index to Judgments, 1864–date, 5 v. (2–6)

Names of parties, date, kind of action, amount, and reference to record are listed.

Mechanics' Lien Record (docket), 1888–date, 1 v.

Fee Book, 1859–date, 64 v. (4–67)

Transcript Record (justices' of the peace [?]), 1858–date, 8 v. (A, 1–7)

Circuit Clerk—Recorder

DEED AND MORTGAGE RECORDS

Deed and Mortgage Record, 1829–date, 399 v.

Complete Index (grantor and grantee), 1829–1866, 2 v.; 1866–1910, 50 v.; 1911–date, 50 v.

There is one volume for each letter of the alphabet for grantors and one each for grantees, except letter X.

Index to Powers of Attorney, c. 1830–date, 1 v.

The contents give reference to record (book and page), names of grantor and grantee, date of instrument, date filed, remark as to extent of power granted.

Tract Index, 1829–date, 54 v.

Corporation Index, 1839–date, 1 v.

Headings: book and page, name of corporation (or society), kind and date of instrument, date of filing, and remarks as to contents of the document recorded.

Index to Chattel Mortgages, 1870–date, 4 v. (1–4)

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Original Land Entry Book, c. 1830–1871, 1 v.

Record of Certificates of Levy and Sale, 1847–date, 3 v. (A–C)

Soldiers' Discharge Record, 1864–1905, 1 v. (A)

The record contains eighty-three entries.

School Commissioners Land Record, 1834–1857, 1 v.

This is a copy of the original record. It contains petitions for sale of school lands, plats of school lands, and records of sale giving date, name of purchaser, and residence, number of acres and price of land sold, description of land, and terms of sale.

MACOUPIN COUNTY[1]

Macoupin county was set off from Madison and Greene in 1829; the county seat is Carlinville. The courthouse is fireproof and the records of the clerks are in office vaults equipped with steel furniture.

County Clerk

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' AND SUPERVISORS' RECORDS

County Commissioners' Record, 1829–1840, 1 v.

The volume is unlabeled; the last part contains a record of earmarks, 1829–1877.

County Commissioners' Order Book, 1840–1874, 3 v. (B–D)

Supervisors' Record, 1875–date, 8 v. (E–L)

COUNTY COURT RECORDS

County Court Record: Common Law, 1872–date, 2 v. (1–2); Criminal, 1873–date, 2 v. (1–2)

Record of Voluntary Assignments, 1877–date, 1 v.

Insane and Conservators' Record, 1873–date, 3 v. (A–C)

Naturalization Record: Declaration of Intention, 1861–1906, 2 v.; Final Certificate, 1860–1902, 2 v.; 1904–1906, 1 v.; Minors and Soldiers, 1873–1902, 2 v.

Judges' Docket, 1865–1871, 3 v. (E–G)

Court Docket, 1872–date, 5 v. (1–5)

Judgment Docket, 1852–1875, 1 v.

Judgment Docket, 1873–date, 2 v. (A–B)

Execution Docket, 1873–date, 1 v.

Insanity Docket, 1893–date, 2 v. (1–2)

Naturalization Docket, 1881–1906, 1 v.

County Court Fee Book, 1861–1876, 1 v.; 1872–date, 6 v. (1–6)

Insane and Conservators' Fee Book, 1895–date, 2 v. (A–B)

[1] Examined July, 1912; reëxamined June, 1915.

TAXATION RECORDS

School Plat Record, 1861–date, 2 v.
Assessors' Books, 1843, 1856–date.
Collectors' Books, 1853–date.
Board of Review Complaint Docket, 1899–date, 2 v. (A–B)
Delinquent Tax List, 1850–1859, 1 v.
Tax Judgment Record, 1861–1880, 7 v. (A–G)
Tax Sale and Redemption Record, 1875–1877, 1880, 2 v.
Record of Sale for Taxes, 1838–1856, 1 v.; 1839–1845, 1 v.; 1848–1857, 1 v.
Tax Sale Record, 1860–1874, 1878–1879, 5 v. (A–E)
Forfeiture Record, 1843–1860, 1872–1875, 1879–1880, 3 v.
Tax Judgment, Sale, Redemption, and Forfeiture Record, 1885–date, 11 v.
Record of Affidavits for Tax Deeds, 1872–date, 2 v.

RECORDS OF VITAL STATISTICS

Marriage Record, 1829–date 20 v. (1–20)
Register of Births, 1878–date, 9 v. (1–9)
Register of Still Births, 1902–date, 1 v.
Register of Deaths, 1878–date, 3 v. (1–3)
Physicians' Certificate Record, 1877–date, 1 v.
Register of Physicians and Accoucheurs, 1877–date, 1 v.
Veterinary Surgeons' Record, 1897–date, 1 v.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Register of Commissions of County Officers, 1859–1884, 1 v.
Estray Record, 1862–1907, 1 v.
Swamp Land Record, 1859, 1 v.
Register of Certificates of Thoroughbred Stock, 1888–1909, 1 v.

County Clerk—Probate

PROBATE COURT RECORDS

Probate Court Record, 1831–date, v. 1, B2, A–W.
Index to Probate Records, 3 v. (A–C)
Probate Judgment and Claim Record, 1866–date, 8 v. (A–H)
Probate Files, 1829–date, 376 f.b.

DOCKETS AND FEE BOOKS

Probate Docket, 1853–1875, 2 v.
Probate Judges' Docket, 1873–date, 24 v. (G–Z, AA–DD)
Probate Execution Docket, 1853–1875, 1 v.
Estate Docket, 1859–1874, 2 v. (A–B)
Guardianship Docket, 1852–1857, 1 v.
Probate Judgment Docket, 1850–date, 12 v. (A–L); Index, 1 v.
Estate Fee Book, 1849–date, 12 v. (A–L)
Guardians' Fee Book, 1870–date, 4 v. (C–F)

RECORDS OF WILLS, BONDS, AND LETTERS

Record of Wills, 1849–date, 9 v. (A–I)
Records of Wills, Bonds, and Letters of Administrators and Executors, 1844–1848, 1 v.
Administrators' Record, 1849–date, 11 v. (A–K)
Executors' Record, 1859–date, 10 v. (B–K)
Record of Letters of Guardianship and Bonds, etc., 1849–date, 9 v. (A–I)
Miscellaneous Probate Record (bonds of administrator de bonis non, with will annexed, additional bonds, etc.), 1879–date, 3 v. (B–D)
Miscellaneous Record (with will annexed, de bonis non, etc.), 1905–date, 1 v. (D)

INVENTORIES, APPRAISEMENTS, AND SALE BILLS

Inventory, Appraisement, and Sale Bill Record, 1859–date: Inventory, 10 v. (B–K); Appraisement, 10 v. (B–K)
Volume A, 1859 *et seq.*, combines all three records.

Guardianship Inventory Record, 1872–date, 2 v. (1–2)
Private Sale Record, 1874–date, 3 v. (A–C)
Public Sale Record, 1864–date, 5 v. (B–F)

REPORT RECORDS, ETC.

Report Record, 1868–date, 17 v. (A–Q)
A miscellaneous report record is in v. R. Current accounts in administration of wills, etc. are included.

Account Book of Executors and Administrators, 1850–1858, 1 v. (A)

Guardianship Ledger, 1870–date, 4 v. (A–D)

Estate Ledger, 1856–date, 10 v. (A–J)

Guardians' and Conservators' Ledger, 1895–date, 1 v. (C)

Widows' Relinquishment and Selection Record, 1870–date, 2 v. (A and E)

Record of Proceedings on Petition to Sell Real Estate to Pay Debts, 1865–date, 6 v. (A–F)

Guardians' Real Estate Sale Record, 1899–date, 2 v. (A–B)

Clerk of the Circuit Court

CIRCUIT COURT RECORDS

Circuit Court Record, 1839–date: Common Law and Criminal, 26 v. (A–Z); Chancery, 1839–date, 36 v. (A–Z, AA–DD, 27–32)

Miscellaneous Court Record, 1830–1839, 1 v.

This contains execution docket and fee record.

Recognizance Record, 1868–1890, 1 v.

Record of Defaults and Confessions, 1861–1869, 1 v.

Circuit Court Files, 1829–date: Criminal and Common Law, 448 f.b.; Chancery, 513 f.b.

Naturalization Record: Soldiers and Minors, 1865–1896, 1 v.; Declaration of Intention, 1855–1898, 2 v.; Final Certificate, 1860–1895, 1 v.; Certificate of Filing Application, 1883–1900, 1 v.

Naturalization Record, 1900–date, 6 v.

General Docket, 1874–date, 3 v. (A–C)

Judges' Dockets (common law, criminal, and chancery), 1838–1843, 1 v., 1848–1849, 1 v.; 1850–date.

Judgment Docket, 1830–date, 13 v. (A–L); additional v. G contains both judgment and execution docket.

Lien and Satisfaction Docket (docket of mechanics' liens), 1888–date, 1 v.

Naturalization Docket, 1884–date, 1 v.

Fee Book (common law, criminal, and chancery), 1846–date, 37 v. (A–Z, 1–11)

Justice of the Peace Transcript Record, 1861–date, 2 v. (C–D)

Circuit Clerk—Recorder

DEED AND MORTGAGE RECORDS

Entry Book, 1829–1858, 5 v.; 1874–date, 12 v. (1–12)

Coal Plat Entry Book, 1904–date.

Deed and Mortgage Record, 1839–date, v. A–Z, AA-ZZ, Ba–Bz, Ca–Cz; Da–Dz, Ea–Ez, Fa–Fz, Ga–Gz; 219–262.

The series contains deeds, mortgages, sheriffs' deeds, oil leases.

Chattel Mortgage Record, 1856–1890, 4 separate v.; 1890–date, 18 v. (20–37)

Complete Index, 1831–date, 21 v. (1–21) each for grantor and grantee.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Surveyors' Record, 1836–date, 2 v.

Record of Sheriffs' Certificates of Levy, 1841–1888, 1 v.

Record of Soldiers' Discharges, 1864–1885, 1 v.

Land Record, 1839–1846, 1 v.

This contains a description of lands offered for sale, or reported for unpaid taxes.

Stallion Register, 1911–date, 1 v.

Record of Sixth Census, 1840.

MADISON COUNTY[1]

Madison county was formed from St. Clair and Randolph counties in 1812; the county seat is Edwardsville; there are separate recorder's and probate clerk's offices. The courthouse has no vaults but is practically fireproof. The offices of the county and probate clerks are badly overcrowded. A few records of no great interest are in the attic.

County Clerk

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' AND SUPERVISORS' RECORDS

"Records & Indentures," 1813–1818, 1 v., probate office.

The volume contains all the records of the county, probate, circuit, and common pleas courts.

"County or Justices Court Record," 1818–1821, 1 v., probate office.

This contains only county and probate business.

County Court Record, 1822–1876, 9 v.

Supervisors' Record, 1876–date, 10 v.

County Commissioners' Papers, 1872–1876, 4 f.b.

Supervisors' Papers, 1876–date, filed in office.

Tavern Bonds, 1819–1828, 1835–1839, 2 f.b. (198–199, old files)

Petitions for Roads, 1817–1819, 1 f.b. (159, old files)

Road Papers, 1838–1874, 15 f.b.

Papers Relating to Courthouse, 1 f.b.

Register of County Bonds Issued, 1872–1879, 1 v.

Register of County Orders, 1871–date, 9 v.

Cancelled County Orders, 1821–1876, 86 f.b.

Record of County Orders, 1826–1837, 1 v.; 1845–1850, 1 v.

These are in office, on west side.

Negro Freedom Papers, 1835–1852, 1 f.b. (46, old files)

The papers include manumissions, affidavits of freedom, proofs of freedom, etc., also Negro indentures dating back to 1815–1823.

[1] Examined November, 1911.

Register of Papers belonging to Free Negroes, 1830–1860, 1 v., indexed.

The volume is on the top shelf, first tier, on west side. This is a record of emancipation papers and affidavits of freedom recorded in Madison county and is labeled, "Negro Book."

Apprenticeship Indentures, 1813–1893, 3 f.b.

Those prior to 1843 are in box 51; those from 1844–1869 in box 52; those from 1870–1893 in box 300 (all old filingboxes). These also contain old slavery indentures.

COUNTY COURT RECORDS

County Court Record, 1872–date, 5 v.

Index to Court Record, 1872–date, 2 v. each for plaintiff and defendant.

County Court Files (common law and criminal), 1872–date, 22 f.b.; Index, 1 v.

Assessments for Drainage, 1904, 1 v.

The volume deals with the assessment for the Chouteau, Wameoki, and Venice drainage and levee district.

American Bottom Drainage District (papers regarding), 1883–1895, 2 f.b.

American Bottom Levee Company (account of taxes received), 1863–1866, 1 f.b. (260, old files)

Insolvent Papers, 1820–1857, in f.b. 49 and 50, old files.

These are schedules of debts and assets of debtor, and debtor's oath of insolvency.

Adoption Record, 1870–date, 2 v. (1–2)

Adoption Files, 1903–1909, 2 f.b.

Insanity and Conservators' Record, 1887–date, 4 v.

Insanity Files, c. 1866–1882, 5 f.b.

Naturalization Record, 1859–1906, 13 v.

Naturalization Papers, 1859–1906, 22 f.b.

General Docket, 1887–date, 1 v. (A)

Judgment Docket, 1872–date, 2 v.

Execution Docket, 1872–date, 1 v. (1)

Judges' Docket for Delinquent and Dependent Children, 1909–date, 1 v. (1)

Judges' Docket, Insanity Cases, 1893–1905, 1 v.

County Court Fee Book, 1872–date, 6 v.

TAXATION RECORDS

Abstract of Assessments, 1871–1874, 1 f.b.

Tax Levies: School Tax Levy, 1855–1880, 14 f.b.; Road, Bridge and Tavern Levy, 1876–1879, 1 f.b.; Road Tax Levy, 1872, 1 f.b.; 1893, 1 f.b.; 1908–1909, 1 f.b.

Docket of Rates and Amounts Wanted, 1876–1901, 2 v.

List of Lands in Madison County owned by Residents of Other Counties, 1835–1838, 1 f.b.

Tax List, 1814.[1]

This is a paper-back volume in county clerk's office, on west side, 5th tier and 13th shelf. Names of persons, amount of land, name of county in which it lies, water course on which it lies, original claimant, and amount of tax are listed; also number of bond servants, number of horses, number of single men (in family[?]) and amount of tax.

Tax List, 1820.[2]

This is a paper-back volume in the office on the shelf over the west door and is labeled "Tax List for year 1820." It gives names of property owners, amount of land and number of horses owned, and amount of tax.

[1] In 1814 the tax on "bond servants" was $1.00 per head; tax on horses, 50c. The total number of taxpayers in 1814 was 173.

LIST OF SLAVEHOLDERS, 1814

	Slaves	Horses	Tax
Bradshaw, Ann	2	1	2.50
Good, Thomas	1	2	2.00
Jarvis, John	1	5	3.50
Kirkpatrick, Thos.	1	6	4.00
Renolds, Robt.	1	5	3.50
Robertson, John, Sr.	2	3	3.50
*Rabb, Wm.	2	3	5.00
Stauky, Jesse	2	3	1.50
Shelton, James	1	1	1.50
Vaughn, Joshua	1	2	2.00
Whiteside, Nel	1	3	2.50
Whiteside, Wm. B.	2	4	4.00

*House worth $1,500—tax, $1.50.

[2] In 1820 the tax rate on personal property was five mills on the dollar. Negroes and horses were taxed according to value and not per head as in 1814. The total number on tax list 1820 was about 1200. These data were compiled from the tax list of Madison county for 1820.

LIST OF SLAVEHOLDERS, 1820
WITH NUMBER AND VALUE OF SLAVES

Name	Negroes		Horses	
	Number	Value	Number	Value
Archer, Wm.	1	$300	1	$ 75
Cook, Henry	1	400	5	295

Railroad Tax Schedules, 1854–1879, 5 f.b.

Road Tax Lists, as reported by the road supervisor, 1838–1872, 35 f.b.

List of Taxable Lands, 1827, 1 f.b.

Assessors' Books, 1833–date, mostly in attic or probate clerk's office.

Collectors' Books, 1843–date.

Railroad Tax Book, 1887–date, 3 v.

Board of Review Proceedings, 1900–1905, 1 f.b. (140)

Those after 1905 are in boxes labeled "Board of Review."

Delinquent Tax Lists (personal property), 1848–1854, 2 f.b.; 1858–1866, 7 f.b.; 1868–1879, 2 f.b.

Delinquent Tax Lists (lands and lots) and orders for sale, 1840–1877, 5 f.b.

Of the recent lists, those for 1890–1903 are in probate office and others in attic.

LIST OF SLAVEHOLDERS, 1820—*Continued*

Name	Negroes		Horses	
	Number	Value	Number	Value
Cox, Micajah	1	600	5	30
Edwards, Ninian	3	1500	4	300
Gillham, Isam	1	700	4	300
Gingles, Elizabeth	1	100	2	75
Gray, James	5	850	..	.....
Gillham, Jacob	1	400	4	300
Hays, Henry	1	500	5	350
Hoxey, Wm.	1	400	8	400
Harris, John	1	300	1	80
Hopkins, Wm. H.	1	500	2	180
Jackson, Law	1	400	1	75
Judy, Jacob	2	500	7	300
Lumkins, Jeptha	2	450	7	780
Mason, James	2	600	4	200
Lurton, Jacob	3	400	2	100
Pogue, Robt.	2	650	1	50
Paterson, John	1	100	2	150
Puleem, Alsey	3	700	2	100
Renolds, James	1	300	..	.....
Robinson, John	2	300	3	150
Renolds, Thos.	3	600	3	150
Stephenson, Benjamin	8	1570	..	.....
Scott, Willie	1	600	4	200
Shelton, James	1	500	1	75
Todd, John	2	500	3	200
Tiffen, Claton	1	300	1	75
Vaughn, Sarah	1	300	1	50
West, Emaliel [Emanuel ?]	1	450	6	290

TAX JUDGMENT, SALE, AND REDEMPTION RECORDS, ETC.

Tax Sale Records, 1833–1862; Tax Judgment Records, Tax Judgment, Sale, and Redemption Records; Tax Judgment, Sale, Redemption, and Forfeiture Records, 1863–1911.

Record of Forfeited Lands, 1871–1873, 1 f.b. [?]; 1874–1879, 2 v. (A–B)

Record of Affidavits for Tax Deeds, 1879–date, 4 v. (A–C, 1)

Certificates for Affidavits for Tax Deeds to Lands Sold for Taxes, 1842–1875, 8 f.b.; 1902, 1 f.b.

RECORDS OF VITAL STATISTICS

Marriage Register, 1813–1879, 2 v., indexed.

The record gives date and number of license, name of man and woman, date of marriage, and by whom certified.

Record of Marriage Licenses, 1859–1877, 2 v.

Marriage Record, 1877–date, 4 v. (8–11); Index (male and female), 4 v.

Marriage Record, 1813–1838, 1 v. (1); 1838–1847, 1 v. (2); 1847–1851, 1 v. (3); 1851–1864, 1 v. (4); 1854–1867, 1 v. (5), indexed.

The record contains date of marriage, names of parties and certificate of marriage signed by officiant.

Marriage Licenses, 1813–1879, 31 f.b.; 1878–date, 55 f.b.

Register of Births, 1877–date, 12 v. (1–12)

Register of Still Births, 1903–date, 2 v. (1–2)

Register of Deaths, 1877–date, 6 v. (1–6)

Birth Reports, 1878–date, 13 f.b.

Still Birth Reports, 1899–date, 5 f.b.

Death Reports, 1877–date, 9 f.b.

Record of Physicians' Certificates, 1878–date, 3 v. (1–3)

Register of Physicians and Accoucheurs, 1877–date, 1 v.

Record of Midwives' Certificates, 1878–date, 1 v.

Agricultural Statistical Abstract, 1879, in f.b. 277, old files.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Returns of an election held in 1819 to elect officers for the militia of Madison county, f.b. 159, old files.

Names of officers and number of votes each received in the different townships are listed.

Abstract of Votes, 1852–1877, 1 f.b.

These are abstracts of various local and state elections, and of national elections, 1852–1876; there is also a poll book for Highland township, 1861.

Certificates of Election, 1893–1907, 1 f.b.

Election Returns, 1900, 1 f.b.

"Record of Justices, etc." 1827–1849, 1 v., unbound.

Assessors' Bond Record, 1899–date, 1 v. (A)

County Officers' Bond Record, 1906–date, 1 v. (1)

Justices' and Constables' Bond Record, 1873–date, 3 v.

Official Bonds, 1813–1868, 7 f.b. (151–155, 160, 300, old files); 1869–1873, 1 f.b. (252)

Register of County Officers, 1867–date, 2 v. (A–B)

List of County Officers Elected, 1876–1890, 1 f.b.

Special Improvement Records, 1904–date, 4 v. (A–D)

The records give the accounts of various local improvements and amount of assessment.

Record of Jury Warrants, 1876–date, 2 v.

Register of Jury Warrants (county and circuit court), 1887–date, 2 v.

Register of Coroners' Jury Orders, 1905–date, 2 v.

Militia Roll Record, 1862, 1 v. (A)

War Bounty Paid Volunteers' Families, 1864–1866, 1 f.b. (283, old files)

Patent Record, 1869–1871, 1 v.

Estray Record, 1817–1825, 1 v.; 1838–1849, 2 v.; 1867–date, 2 v. (B–C)

Estray Papers, 1823, 1826–1883, 4 f.b. (11, 24, 71, 140, old files)

"Field Notes for Road from Edwardsville, Madison County, to Clear Lake, Sangamon County, February, 1820," in f.b. 159.

List of Soldiers Discharged in Texas, 1866, who remained south, in f.b. 260, old files.

Coroners' Record, 1870–date, 3 v. (A–C)

School Commissioners' Reports, 1832–1852, 1 f.b. (48, old files)

These are reports of money received and the investment of it. See also school commissioners' reports, 1832–1841, 1 v., in probate office, northwest corner.

School Plats, 1863–1877, 1 v.; 1866, 1 f.b.; 1865–1910, 2 f.b.; 1906–1910, 1 f.b.

School Commissioners' Sale Book, 1831–1852, 2 v.

These are records of school lands sold, and give name of purchaser, value and amount of land sold. The volume is on the west side of the office and is labeled "Letter Book."

Swamp Lands, c. 1850–1865, 1 f.b. (260, old files)

These are lists of lands sold, reports of agents to sell the lands, papers relating to drainage of lands, etc., also several plats.

Clerk of the Probate Court

PROBATE COURT RECORDS

Records and Indentures, 1813–1818, indexed.

The volume contains the first records of the county court, which attended to all business pertaining to the county (probate, roads, license for taverns, bridges, etc.). The circuit or supreme court, which came into existence in 1815, succeeded to the book in question, using it for records, 1815–1816. The volume contains county orders, lists of minor appointments, account of receipts and expenditures of the county, probate records, 1813–1818, and register of indentures and manumissions of Negroes, including Governor Edward Coles's manumissions to his slaves. The volume is in the probate clerk's office.

"County or Justices Court Record," 1818–1821, 1 v., see *ante*, 408.

Probate Record, 1821–date, 39 v.

Up to about 1840, all probate records were kept together in volumes of this series.

Probate Files, 1814–date.

The estate and conservators' papers are kept together, and the guardians' papers separate; estates, 323 f.b.; guardians, 67 f.b.; index to each, 1 v.

DOCKETS AND FEE BOOKS

Probate Judgment and Claim Docket, 1887–1897, 1 v.

Probate Judgment Docket, 1861–1870, 1 v.

Estate Docket, 1886–1889, 1 v. (A)

The volume records name of estate, number of estate, name of widow, heirs, administrator, and also number and amount of claims allowed.

Probate Fee Book, 1843–date, 12 v. (A–L)

RECORDS OF WILLS, BONDS, AND LETTERS

Record of Wills, 1818–date, 12 v.

Record of Administrators' Bonds and Letters, 1836–date, 14 v.

The earlier volumes (1836–1850) are labeled "Letters B," 1 v., and "Administrators' Bonds," 2 v.

Executors' Record, 1844–date, 6 v. (B–G)
Guardians' Record, 1851–date, 7 v.
Record of Miscellaneous Bonds and Letters, 1873–date, 3 v. (A–C)

INVENTORIES, APPRAISEMENTS, SALE BILLS, ETC.

Record of Inventories, 1859–date, 9 v. (A–I)
Guardians' Inventory Record, 1887–date, 2 v. (A–B)
Appraisement Record, 1865–date, 9 v.
Sale Bill Record, 1863–1873, 3 v. (A–C)
This record was discontinued, 1873–1911.
Guardians' Report Record, 1887–date, 1 v. (1)
Guardians' Accounts, 1863–1875, 1 v.
Widows' Relinquishment and Selection Record, 1909–date, 1 v.
Record of Petition to Sell Real Estate to Pay Debts, 1852–date, 10 v. (A–J)

Clerk of the Circuit Court

CIRCUIT COURT RECORDS

Circuit Court Record: Common Law and Criminal, 25 v. (B–Z); Common Law, 6 v. (1–6); Criminal, 5 v. (1–5); Chancery, 1816–date, 36 v.
The records in circuit clerk's office begin with v. B, May, 1816. The records for 1815–1816 are in "Records & Indentures" in probate office.
Index to Court Record, 1860–date, 8 v. each for plaintiff and defendant.
Circuit Court Files (common law, chancery, and criminal), 1813–date, 547 f.b.
Prior to 1840 all cases were arranged alphabetically and filed by years, including those of the Alton municipal court (1837–1840). After 1840 the chancery, common law, and criminal papers were kept separate, but filed in consecutive boxes. The files are not numbered, but there is an index to the boxes.
Naturalization Record, 1840–1906, 8 v.
Naturalization Papers, 1855–date, 9 f.b.

DOCKETS AND FEE BOOKS

Judges' Docket, 1895–date, 145 v., in office.
The old dockets are in attic.

Judges' Docket, 1851–1855, 1 v., labeled "Records"; 1862, 1 v.
Execution Docket, 1827–date, 18 v. (A–R)

Volumes B–G are in probate office. In the county clerk's office over west door is a judgment docket for 1816.

Executions, 1865–date, 17 f.b.
Mechanics' Lien and Satisfaction Docket, 1888–date, 1 v. (1)
Fee Book, August, 1826–May, 1832, 1 v.; 1835, 1 v., unbound, in county clerk's office over west door; 1885–date, 50 v.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Justice of the Peace Transcript Record, 1859–date, 3 v.
Index to Justices' Transcripts, 1 v.
Transcripts from Justice of the Peace Dockets, 1837–date, 5 f.b.
Register of Jurors, 1887–1907, 1 v.
States Attorneys' Report Record, 1873–date, 1 v. (A)

This gives list of defendants, in what court tried, of what convicted and amount of fees and fines.

Coroners' Inquests, 1837–1895, in f.b. 659.

Later inquests are in 2 f.b.

Indictment Record, 1881–date, 1 v. (A)
Municipal Court of Alton Record, 1837–1840, 2 v. (A–B), indexed; Chancery Docket, 1840–1842; Judgment Docket, 1837–1840; 1 v. (A); Execution Docket, 1837–1846, 1 v. (A); Fee Book, 1837–1843, 3 v. (A–C)

Recorder

Entry Book, 1814–date, 54 v.
Deed and Mortgage Record, 1811–date, 380 v.

Up to about 1875, mortgages, deeds, bills of sale etc. were all recorded in same volume. After 1875, deeds, mortgages, and chattel mortgages are in separate volumes but in same series. After 1899 chattel mortgages are in a separate series (C1–C15), 15 v. In the earlier volumes are found deeds, mortgages, copies of indentures, and bills of sale for Negroes copied from records of other counties; wills, powers of attorney, etc. Volumes A and B have been copied into one volume "B."

Index to Deeds and Mortgages, grantor and grantee, 1811–date, 1 v. for each letter of the alphabet.

A phonetic index is in process of preparation.

Deed and Mortgage Record (of Alton recorder [?]), 1837–1878, 35 v. (A–Z, 1–9)

Index to above, grantor and grantee.

Chattel Mortgage Index, 1889–date, 2 v. (2–3) each for mortgagor and mortgagee.

Surveyors' Record, 1835–c. 1908, 6 v.

Record of Masters' and Sheriffs' Certificates, 1872–1892, 1 v.; Index, 2 v.

These are in the regular series of records, in v. 24, 71, 72, 101, 128, 198, and 370 after 1892.

Soldiers' Discharge Record, 1865 *et seq.*, 1 v.

MARION COUNTY[1]

Marion county was set off from Fayette and Jefferson in 1823; the county seat is Salem. The courthouse is situated in a square and is a modern fireproof building, just completed. The vaults are large and furnished with steel fixtures. The circuit court files prior to 1852 and probate files prior to 1850 are filed in the attic. The county commissioners' record of Clinton county for 1842–1850 is in the circuit clerk's vault.

County Clerk

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' AND SUPERVISORS' RECORDS

County Commissioners' Record, 1823–1849, 4 v. (1–4)

County Court Record, 1849–1871, 3 v. (5–7); 1871–1873, 1 v. (C)

Supervisors' Record, 1874–date, 5 v. (1–5)

Supervisors' Papers, 1874–1906, in attic; 1907–date, 12 f.b., in vault.

COUNTY COURT RECORDS

County Court Record, 1879–date, 2 v. (2–3)

"Record," 1867–1878, 1 v. (1)

This is a mixture of probate, common law, and criminal records; most of the probate records are cases of petitions to sell real estate, etc.

County Court Files, 1872–date: Criminal, 5 f.b.; Common Law, 8 f.b.; Insanity, 3 f.b.

Voluntary Assignment Record, 1879–1894, 1 v. (1)

Insanity Record, 1893–date, 1 v.

Trial and verdict are recorded.

Insane and Conservators' Record, 1904–1909, 1 v. (1)

This contains conservators' records to date.

Insanity Files, 3 f.b.

Naturalization Record, 1867–1905, 4 v. (A–D)

Judges' Docket, 1872–date, 4 v. (1–4)

Judgment Docket, 1872–date, 1 v. (1)

[1] Examined May–June, 1912.

Execution Docket, 1867–date, 1 v. (1)
Insanity Docket, 1893–date, 1 v.
County Court Fee Book: Common Law, 1872–date, 3 v.; Criminal, 1872–date, 3 v.; Insanity, 1899–date, 1 v.

TAXATION RECORDS

County Clerks' Statement of Taxes to Auditor, 1897–1906, 1 v. (1)
Tabular Statement of Assessment and Taxes, 1874–1877, 1 v.; 1897–date, 2 v.
Abstract of Tax Books, 1871–date, 7 v. (1–7)
Totals of the several footings of each page of the collectors' books are given.
A Descriptive List of Taxable Lands Lying in Marion County as Copied from Auditors' Books, c. 1818–1836.
Land Entry Book, 1819–1896, 1 v.
This volume is labeled "Land Office, Marion County."
Assessors' Books, 1845–date.
Collectors' Books, 1852–date.
Railroad Tax Book, 1873–date, 3 v. (1–3)
Board of Review Record, 1899–date, 1 v. (1)
Board of Review Complaint Docket, 1899–date, 1 v. (1)
Tax Judgment Record, 1849–1879, 6 v. (1, A–E)
Tax Sale and Redemption Record, 1856–1879, 6 v. (A–F)
Record of Forfeited Lands, 1872–1878, 3 v. (2–4)
Tax Judgment, Sale, Redemption, and Forfeiture Record, 8 v.
Record of Affidavits for Tax Deeds, 1873–date, 3 v. (1–3)

RECORDS OF VITAL STATISTICS

Marriage Record, 1823–date, 6 v. (A–F)
Contents: date of license, names of parties, date of marriage and by whom.
Register of Marriages, 1878–date, 3 v. (1–3)
Record of Applications for Marriage License, 1887–1891, 2 v. (1–2)
Marriage Licenses, 1823 [?]–date, in attic.
Register of Births, 1878–date, 6 v. (1–6)
Index to Births, 1878–1904, 1 v.
Register of Still Births, 1877–date, 1 v. (1)
Register of Deaths, 1878–date, 3 v. (1–3)

Index to Deaths, 1878–1908, 1 v.

Birth Reports and Death Reports, 1877–date, in attic.

The files for the current year are in the vault.

Record of Physicians' Certificates, 1877–1907, 1 v. (1)

Record of Certificates of Physicians (Dentists), and Architects, 1905–date, 1 v. (2)

Register of Physicians and Midwives, 1877–date, 1 v.

Abstract of Agricultural Statistics, 1877–1878, 1 v.

Tabular Statement of Agricultural Statistics, 1910, 1 folio for each township.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Assessors' Bond Record, 1899–date, 1 v. (1)

Justices' and Constables' Bond Record, 1873–date, 3 v.

Record of Ear Marks, 1850–1871, 1 v.

Estray Book, 1838–1875, 2 v.

District School Record (district no. 3, township 2, range 1), 1867–1880, 1 v.

The volume is a record of teachers, giving name, date of employment and length of term, and salary, 1867–1880; report on attendance and on condition of school, 1867–1880; record of trustees, 1867–1887.

School Land Record, 1837–1853, 1 v.

Plats of land and record of sale are given.

Surveyors' Record, 1847–1853, 1 v.

The volume is labeled "Land & Survey Record."

State Board of Agriculture, Certificates of Thoroughbred Stock, 1888–1909, 1 v.

Day Books (most of them of the firm of Oglesby and Dobbin), 1831–1832, 1836–1837, 1839, 1842, 1846–1847, 1855.

County Clerk—Probate

PROBATE COURT RECORDS

Probate Court Record, 1828–1849, 8 v. (A–H)

These volumes contain all probate records kept, 1828–1849—wills, inventories, sale bills, bonds and letters of administration, reports, claims, settlements, etc.

Probate Journal, 1849–date, 20 v. (H–Z, 1)

Contents: till 1870 same as above; since that date the record contains orders, decrees, records of reports, etc.

Probate Files, 1850–date, 190 f.b.

The files are arranged by letter and are not indexed.

DOCKETS AND FEE BOOKS

Probate Judges' Docket, 1868–date, 14 v. (1–14)

Probate Estate Docket, 1857–1879, 2 v. (A–B)

Probate Judgment Docket, June, 1840–February, 1841, 1 v.

Probate Judgment Docket, 1857–date, 9 v. (A–I)

Probate Fee Book, 1866–date, 7 v. (A–G)

RECORDS OF WILLS, BONDS, AND LETTERS

Will Record, 1857–1879, 1 v.

Executors' and Will Record, 1880–date, 4 v. (C–F)

Executors' Record, 1866–1879, 2 v. (A–B)

Record of Probate Bonds, Letters, etc., 1850–1854, 1 v.

The volume contains bonds, letters, etc., of administrators, guardians and executors.

Record of Administrators' and Guardians' Bonds and Letters, June, 1854–December, 1868, 1 v. (B)

Administrators' Record, 1863–date, 4 v. (A–D)

There are two extra volumes labeled "B" and "C" containing administrators' bonds and letters, but both are partly blank.

Guardians' Record, 1866–date, 4 v.

Record of Miscellaneous Bonds and Letters, 1873–date, 4 v. (A, 1–3)

INVENTORIES, APPRAISEMENTS, AND SALE BILLS

Inventory, Appraisement, and Sale Bill Record, 1846–1865, 5 v. (A–E)

Inventory Record, 1866–date, 6 v.

Guardians' Inventory Record, 1886–date, 1 v. (1)

Appraisement Record, 1866–date, 6 v. (K–M, A–C)

Sale Bill Record, 1866–date, 3 v. (K–M)

REPORT RECORDS, ETC.

Administrators' and Executors' Report Record, 1880–date, 5 v. (1–5)

Guardians' Report Record, 1880–date, 2 v. (1–2)

Probate Accounts Current, 1857–1860, 1 v. (B)

Estate Ledger, 1869–date, 5 v. (A–B, 1–3)
Insolvent Estate Record, 1877–date, 1 v.
Widows' Relinquishment and Selection Record, 1870–1871, 1 v. (1); 1873–1885, 1 v. (2)
Decree Record, 1890–date, 1 v. (1)

This is a record of decrees on petitions to sell real estate to pay debts.

Clerk of the Circuit Court

CIRCUIT COURT RECORDS

Circuit Court Record, 1823–date, 31 v. (A–Z, 1–5)

Common law, chancery, and criminal records are all in the same volumes.

Index to Court Record, 1858–date, 6 v. each for plaintiff and defendant.
Circuit Court Files, 1820–1852, in attic; 1852–date, 694 f.b.
Naturalization Record, 1865–1906, 3 v.

DOCKETS, FEE BOOKS, ETC.

Judges' Docket, 1843–1909, 22 v. (1–22); 1909–date, loose leaf.
Judgment Docket, 1855–date, 10 v. (B–K)
Execution Docket, 1863–date, 3 v. (A–C)
Mechanics' Lien and Satisfaction Docket, 1887–date, 1 v. (1)
Fee Book, 1853–date, 33 v. (A–Z, 1–7)
Justice of the Peace Transcript Record, 1848–date, 6 v. (1–6)
States Attorneys' Report Record, 1873–1909, 1 v. (1)
Indictment Record, 1873–date, 4 v. (A–D)

Circuit Clerk—Recorder

DEED AND MORTGAGE RECORDS

Entry Book, 1884–date, 7 v. (A–F)
Deed Record, 1823–date, 118 v. (A–Z, AA–DD, 1–88)
Mortgage Record, 1857–date, 79 v. (A–Z, 1–53)
Release Record, 1871–date, 20 v. (1–20)
Plat Record, 1894–date, 2 v. (1–2)
General Index, 1823–date, 18 v. each for grantor and grantee.
Marginal Release and Assignment Index, 1905–date, 1 v. (1)
Masters' Certificate Record, 1864–date, 2 v. (1–2)

Certificates of sale by decree of court are recorded.

Record of Sheriffs' Certificates of Levy, Sale, and Redemption, 1857–date, 3 v. (1–3)

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Surveyors' Record, 1837–1844, 3 v.; 1885–1900, 2 v.
Record of United States Surveys, 1875, 1 v.
Official Bond Record, 1850–date, 1 v. (1)
Collectors' Bond Record, 1878–date, 2 v. (1–2)
Township Treasurers' Bond Record, 1906–date, 1 v. (1)
Record of Soldiers' Discharges, 1866–date, 1 v. (1)
Stallion Register, 1910–date, 1 v. (1); Renewals, 1 v.
Miscellaneous Record, 1870–date, 12 v. (1–12)

These records contain miscellaneous deeds, mortgages, oil and gas leases, certificates of election of trustees, etc.

MARSHALL COUNTY[1]

Marshall county was set off in 1839 from territory formerly in Putnam and was enlarged from La Salle in 1839; the county seat is Lacon. The courthouse is in a public square. It is scarcely fireproof. The records are in steel equipped offices with iron shutters and tiled floors, but with much wooden furniture about. A few county clerk's records are on shelves in a basement room.

County Clerk

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' AND SUPERVISORS' RECORDS

County Commissioners' and Supervisors' Record, 1839–date, 6 v. (A–F)

Register of County Orders, 1863–date, 8 v. (A–H)

County Orders, 1875–date.

These papers are filed with all other papers of the office in 280 indexed files.

Jury List, 1872–1903, 2 v.

COUNTY COURT RECORDS

County Court Record, 1872–date, 2 v.

Record of Judgment by Confession in Vacation, 1892–1907, 1 v.

Until 1897 the record includes particulars of fees.

Assignment Record, 1878–1885, 1 v.

Naturalization Record, 1862–1906, 7 v.

Naturalization Papers, 1866–1906 (see above for county files)

Judges' Docket, 1872–date, 2 v.

Bar Docket, 1886–1889, 1 v.

Judgment Docket, 1872–date, 1 v.

Execution Docket, 1872–date, 1 v.

Insanity Docket, 1893–date, 2 v.

The contents include number of case, name of insane and date of application, names of petitioner and witnesses, jury or commission, date of orders, and order of court.

[1]Examined April, 1914.

County Court Fee Book: Common Law, 1872–1875, 1 v.; 1910–date, 1 v.; Criminal, 1905–1910, 1 v.; Common Law and Criminal, 1911–date, 1 v.

TAXATION RECORDS

Abstract of Assessments, 1891–date, 1 v.
Aggregate of Footings, 1883–date, 8 v.
Statements of Assessment of Taxes, 1861–date.
List of Military Lands in Marshall County Subject to Taxation, 1817–1840, 1 v.
Docket of Tax Levies, 1887–date, 2 v.
Assessment and Rates, School Districts, 1896–1903, 1 v.
Equalized Assessment and Aggregate of Footings, School Districts, 1904–date, 1 v.
Tax Levies, 1869–1894; Road Tax Lists, 1850–1870.
Collectors' Books, 1851–date.
Railroad Tax Book, 1874–1892, 2 v.
Docket of Back Taxes, 1876, 1 v.
Delinquent Lists, 1858, 1 v.; 1860, 1 v.; 1861, 2 v.; 1862, 1 v.; 1863, 1 v.; 1865, 2 v.; 1866, 1 v.; 1867–1868, 1 v.; 1869, 1 v.; 1871, 2 v.; 1873, 2 v.; 1874, 1 v.; 1875, 1 v.; 1876, 1 v.; 1878, 1 v.; 1879, 1 v.; 1880, 1 v.; also folios, 1850–1873.
Tax Judgment Record, 1874–1879, 2 v.
Tax Sale Record, 1839–1844, 1 v.; 1852–1861, 1 v.; 1858–1876, 2 v.
Tax Sale and Redemption Record, 1877–1880, 2 v.
Tax Judgment, Sale, Redemption, and Forfeiture Record, 1880–date, 7 v. (9–15)
Record of Affidavits for Tax Deeds, 1881–date, 3 v.
Tax Deed Affidavits, 1866–1880, in files.
Settlements with Town Officers for Taxes, 1880–1896, 2 v.
County Treasurers' and Collectors' Accounts with County, 1875–1881, 1 v.
Collectors' Accounts, 1862–1873, 1 v.

RECORDS OF VITAL STATISTICS

Register of Marriages, 1878–1880, 1 v.; 1899–date, 1 v.
Board of health form is used.
Record of Marriage Licenses, 1839–date, 4 v.; Index, 1 v. each for male and female.

Record of Applications for Marriage License, 1898–1905, 4 v.; 1905–date, 4 v. (1–4)
Marriage Licenses, 1850–date.
Register of Births, 1877–date, 4 v. (1–4)
Register of Still Births, 1877–1888, 1 v.
Register of Deaths, 1878–date, 3 v.
Birth Reports, 1879–1885.
Death Reports, 1879–1888.
Record of Physicians' Certificates, 1877–date, 2 v.
Contains also dental certificates.
Register of Physicians and Accoucheurs, 1877–date, 1 v

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Poll Books, 1850–1890.
Town Assessors' and Supervisors' of Assessment Bond Record, 1899–date, 1 v.
Register of Commissions of County Officers, 1857–1881, 1 v.; 1839–date, 1 v.
Record of Town Officers, 1875–date, 2 v.
Certificates of Election of Town Officers, 1853–1890.
Record of Marks and Brands, 1839–1910, 1 v.
Record of Estrays, 1839–1908, 2 v.; Papers, 1850–1891.
County Clerks' Accounts, Births and Deaths, 1902–date, 2 v.
Militia Roll Record, 1861–1862, 1 v.
Register of Receipts and Expenditures, 1874–date, 5 v.

County Clerk—Probate

PROBATE COURT RECORDS

Probate Record, 1839–date, 25 v. (A–Y)
Probate Files, 1839–date (filed as indicated *ante*, 424)

DOCKETS AND FEE BOOKS

Probate Judges' Docket, 1858–1870, 3 v.; 1871–date, 23 v. (4–26)
The volumes contain name of estate, applicant, what for, date and order of court.
Probate Estate Docket, 1852–date, 3 v. (A–C)
The contents include name of deceased and administrator, date of letters, amount of bond and securities, names of widow and heirs, date of

filing inventory, appraisement and sale bill, widows' award and selection, and remarks.

Docket of Claims, 1857–1908, 3 v. (B–D)

There is one estate to a page.

Probate Fee Book, 1859–date, 12 v. (A–L)

RECORDS OF WILLS, BONDS, AND LETTERS

Record of Wills, 1841–date, 6 v. (A–F)

Administrators' Record, 1856–date, 4 v.

The current volume has a separate part for administrators with will annexed.

Executors' Record, 1866–1898, 1 v.; 1904–date, 1 v.

Conservators' Record, 1904–date, 1 v.

Petition, order, bond, and letters are recorded.

Record of Guardians' Bonds and Letters, 1856–date, 4 v. (A–D)

The later form is two-page, including court record, bond, and letters.

Additional Bond Record (administrators and guardians), 1907–date, 1 v.

Record of Miscellaneous Probate Bonds, 1903–date, 2 v.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Inventory Record, 1859–date, 8 v. (A–H)

Inventory and Sale Bill Record, 1839–1850, 1 v.

Account Current Record, 1857–1902, 3 v. (A–C)

Report Record, 1878–1885, 1 v. (C); 1899–date, 2 v. (D–E)

Guardians' Report Record, 1885–1900, 1 v. (E); 1902–date, 1 v. (G)

Final Report Record (administrators and executors), 1890–date, 2 v.

Clerk of the Circuit Court

CIRCUIT COURT RECORDS

Circuit Court Record, 1839–1870, 6 v. (A–E, two D's); Chancery, 1853–date, 14 v. (1–14); Criminal and Common Law, 1870–date, 8 v. (F–M)

Index to Court Records, 1857–1872, 2 v. each for plaintiff and defendant; 1872–date, 1 v. each for plaintiff and defendant.

Circuit Court Files: Chancery, c. 1841–date, 153 f.b.; Common Law, 1839–date, 200 f.b.; Criminal, 1873–date, 30 f.b.

Index to Court Files, 3 v.

Naturalization Record, 1865–1904, 3 v.

DOCKETS, FEE BOOKS, ETC.

General Docket, 1874–date, 2 v.
Judges' Docket, 1841–1846, 1 v.; 1847–1853, 2 v.; 1853, 1 v.; 1853–1857, 1 v.; 1854, 1 v.; 1855, 1 v.; 1856–1858, 1 v.; 1859–1864, 2 v.; 1863, 1 v.; 1864–1867, 2 v.; 1865, 1 v.; 1869, 1 v.; 1872, 1 v.; 1875, 1 v.; 1879, 1 v.; 1884, 1 v.; 1900–date, 2 v.
Clerks' Docket, 1857–1862, 3 v.; 1868–1870, 1 v.; 1870–1872, 4 v.; 1875, 2 v.; 1876, 2 v.; 1878, 1 v.; 1880, 1 v.; 1882, 1 v.; 1884–1887, 1 v.; 1906, 1 v.
Clerks' Term Docket, 1894–1897, 1 v.
Bar Docket, 1871, 1 v.; 1875, 1 v.; 1876, 1 v.; 1879–1884, 4 v.
Motion Docket, 1874–1902, 1 v.
Judgment Docket, 1839–1855, 1 v.; 1855–date, 6 v. (A–F)
Current volume is loose leaf.
Execution Docket, 1857–date, 3 v.
Naturalization Docket, 1888–1892, 1 v.
Docket of Mechanics' Liens, 1890–date, 1 v.
Fee Books, 1839–1842, 1 v.; 1851–1863, 1 v.; 1856–date.
Record of Fee Bills, 1875, 1 v.
Justice of the Peace Transcript Record, 1847–1870, 1 v.; 1870–date, 3 v.
Register of Receipts and Expenditures, 1873–date, 5 v. (A–E)
Register of Jurors' Certificates, 1855–1865, 1 v.

Circuit Clerk—Recorder

DEED AND MORTGAGE RECORDS

Entry Book, 1838–1870, 10 v.; 1870–date, 6 v. (6–11)
Transcript Deed Record, 3 v.
Deed and Mortgage Record, 1838–date, 130 v. (A–Z, 1–104)
Miscellaneous Record, 1871–date, 5 v. (A–E)
Record of Wills, 1892–date, 2 v.
Deed Index, 1872–1900, 2 v. each for grantor and grantee; 1900–date, 1 v. each, loose leaf.
Sectional Indexes, 28 v.

Lacon Cemetery Record Index, 1 v.
Index to Chattel Mortgages, 1878–date, 1 v.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Record of Certificates of Redemption, 1857–date, 1 v.
Record of Masters' and Sheriffs' Certificates of Purchase, 1856–1869, 1 v.; 1869–date, 1 v.; 1893–date, 1 v.
Record of Certificates of Levy, 1856–date, 1 v.
Surveyors' Record, 1 v., n.d.; 1850–1860, 1 v.; 1885–1896, 1 v.
Record of United States Surveys, 1879, 1 v.
Tract Record of Surveys, 1 v.
Road Record, 1842–1855, 1 v.
Plat Book, 1871–1904, 1 v.
Original Entry Book, 3 v.
Town Collectors' Bond Record, 1888–date, 2 v.
Town Treasurers' Bond Record, 1888–date, 1 v.
Record of Soldiers' Discharges, 1865, 1 v.
Stallion Register, 1911–date, 2 v.
School Commissioners' Record, 1839–1864, 1 v. (A)
School Commissioners' Register of Loans, 1853–1865, 1 v.
School Commissioners' Register of Sales, 1839–1849, 1 v.

MASON COUNTY[1]

Mason county was set off from Tazewell and Menard in 1841; the county seat is Havana. The county offices are housed in several brick buildings in a public square. One of these, a one-story building, contains the offices of the circuit and county clerks. The records are kept on roller shelves with cement flooring near them, though a wooden floor and wooden furniture are in the same room. Both offices are in good condition. As ordinarily the county clerk's office presents the most difficult archival problem, it is pleasant to be able to note that it is in excellent order. The clerk is thoroughly acquainted with all the records in his office and has them carefully arranged. The paper files are well indexed. It is said that there was a courthouse fire in 1882.

County Clerk

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' AND SUPERVISORS' RECORDS

County Commissioners' and Supervisors' Record, 1841–date, 7 v. (A–G); Index to v. A and B, 1 v.

Supervisors' Papers, 1881–date, 33 f.b.

COUNTY COURT RECORDS

County Court Record, 1872–date: Common Law, 2 v.; Criminal, 2 v.

County Court Files, 1872–date, 13 f.b.

Index to Court Record, 1 v. each for plaintiff and defendant.

Drainage Record, 1891–1905, 2 v.

Drainage Records, Special Districts: Mason and Cass River, 1907–1909, 1 v.; Sangamon River, 1903–1910, 1 v.; Onion River District, 1903–1910, 1 v.

Insane and Conservators' Record, 1871–date, 2 v.

Insanity Files, 1860–date, 10 f.b.

Naturalization Record: Declaration of Intention, 1861–1905, 1 v.; Final Certificate, 1868–1900, 1 v.; Minors and Adults, 1890–1904, 1 v.; Soldiers, 1868–1900, 1 v.

[1] Examined July–August, 1912; reëxamined April, 1914.

Judges' Docket, 1872–date, 2 v.
Judgment Docket, 1858–1861, 1 v.; 1872–date, 1 v.
Execution Docket, 1858, 1 v.; 1872–date, 1 v.
Insanity Docket, 1893–date, 1 v.
County Court Fee Book, 1859–1861, 1 v.; 1872–date, 2 v.

TAXATION RECORDS

Record of Original Land Entries Certified by Auditor, 1836–1870, 1 v.
Record of School Plats, 1850–1863, 1 v.; 1872–date, 1 v.
Assessors' Books, 1852–date.
Collectors' Books, 1851–date.
Railroad Tax Book, 1873–date, 3 v.
Board of Review Complaint Docket, 1899–date, 1 v.
Delinquent Tax Lists, 1893–date.
Tax Judgment Record, 1843–1857, 1860–1863, 1864–1867, 1869–1871, 1871–1873, 1872–1874, 1875–1876, 1880, 1 v. each.
Tax Sale Record, 1861–1863, 1865–1867, 1869–1872, 1873–1874, 1 v. each; 1874–1880, 2 v.
Record of Lands Forfeited to State, 1872–1878, 2 v.
Tax Judgment, Sale, Redemption, and Forfeiture Record, 1880–date, 33 v.

RECORDS OF VITAL STATISTICS, ETC.

Register of Marriages, 1841–date, 7 v. (1–7)
Marriage Licenses, 1845–date, 18 f.b.
The applications are kept on file by years; no books are kept.
Register of Births, 1878–date, 4 v.
Register of Deaths, 1877–date, 5 v.
Record of Physicians, 1877–date, 2 v.
Register of Physicians and Accoucheurs, 1878–1906, 1 v.
Architects' License Record, 1897–1902, 1 v.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Election Files, 1889–date.
Assessors' Bond Record, 1899–date, 1 v.
Justices' and Constables' Bond Record, 1875–date, 2 v.
Record of Volunteers, 1861–1863, 1 v.

Militia Roll Record, 1861–1863, 1 v.
Record of Soldiers' Discharges, 1865–1902, 1 v.
Record of Ear Marks, 1841–1897, 1 v.
Reports of School Commissioners, 1841–1851, 1 v.
Swamp Land Record, 2 v.

The record contains entry of lands sold, description, name of purchaser, amount, and price per acre.

County Clerk—Probate

PROBATE COURT RECORDS

Probate Journal, 1841–date, 19 v. (A–S)
Probate Files, 1841–date, 131 f.b.
Probate Judges' Docket, 1841–date, 15 v. (A–O)
Probate Estate Docket, 1858–1865, 1 v.
Probate Judgment Docket, 1859–date, 5 v. (A–E); Index, 1 v.
Probate Fee Book, 1854–date, 8 v. (A–H)

RECORDS OF WILLS, BONDS, AND LETTERS

Record of Wills, 1866–date, 4 v.
Record of Administrators' and Guardians' Bonds, 1856–1866, 1 v.
Administrators' Record, 1863–date, 5 v. (B–F)
Executors' Record, 1868–date, 2 v. (B–C)
Guardians' Record, 1863–date, 4 v. (B–D, 2 v. C)
Record of Probate Bonds and Letters (miscellaneous), 1877–date, 1 v.

INVENTORIES, APPRAISEMENTS, SALE BILLS, ETC.

Administrators' Inventory Record, 1866–date, 5 v. (C–G)
Guardians' Inventory Record, 1873–date, 1 v.
Appraisement Record, 1860–date, 6 v (C–H)
Inventory, Appraisement, and Sale Record, 1857–1865, 1 v.
Record of Sale and Appraisement Bills, 1841–1857, 2 v.
Sale Record, 1873–date, 2 v.
Administrators' Sale Record, 1868–1890, 1 v.
Administrators' Report Record, 1847–date, 11 v. (A–K)
Ledger of Claims against Estates, 1866–date, 2 v.
Guardians' Report Record, 1895–date, 2 v.
Widows' Relinquishment and Selection Record, 1866–date, 3 v.

Record of Sale of Real Estate, 1850–1857, 1 v.; 1899–date, 1 v.
The second volume contains petitions, reports of sales, and bonds.

Miscellaneous Record, 1866–date, 2 v.
The record includes petitions to sell real estate and court orders thereon, reports of sales, and guardians' and administrators' reports.

Clerk of the Circuit Court

CIRCUIT COURT RECORDS

Circuit Court Record: Common Law, 1841–date, 13 v. (A–M); Criminal, 1870–date, 3 v. (A–C); Chancery, 1846–date, 24 v. (A–X); Index, 2 v. unnumbered, and v. 1–2 each for plaintiff and defendant.
Recognizance Record, 1868–date, 2 v.
Mittimus Record, 1903–date, 1 v.
Confession Record, 1895–date, 1 v.
Circuit Court Files, 1842–date, 618 f.b.
Naturalization Record: Final Certificate, 1860–1884, 1 v.; Declaration of Intention, 1861–1884, 1 v.; Minors and Discharged Soldiers, 1865–1880, 1 v.
General Court Docket, 1885–date, 2 v.
Judges' Docket, 1845–date, 24 v. (A–V)
There are also two unlabeled volumes.

Judgment Docket, 1843–date, 8 v. (A–H).
Execution Docket, 1842–date, 5 v. (A–E)
Docket of Mechanics' Liens, 1888–date, 1 v.
Fee Book, 1852–date, 21 v. (A–V)
Volume "O" is missing.

Justice of the Peace Transcript Record, 1856–date, 4 v. (A–D)

Circuit Clerk—Recorder

Entry Book, 1859–date, 8 v. (A–H)
Deed Record, 1841–date, 91 v. (A–Z, 27–91)
Mortgage Record, 1856–date, 54 v. (A–Z, 27–54)
Chattel Mortgage Record, 1858–date, 40 v. (1–40)
Grantor and Grantee Index to Mortgages, v. A–K, each series
Plat Book, 1873–date, 3 v.
Record of Certificates of Sale and Redemption, 1857–date, 4 v.

Surveyors' Record, 1842–date, 3 v.
Abstracts, 28 v.
Record of Power of Attorney and Certificates of Incorporation, 1908–date, 1 v.
Record of Lien on Gets of Stallions, 1910, 1 v.
Stallion Register, 1910–date, 1 v.; Renewals, 1911–date, 1 v.

MASSAC COUNTY[1]

Massac county was set off from Pope and Johnson in 1843; the county seat is Metropolis. The courthouse is situated in a public square and is not fireproof. The vaults are large and built of heavy masonry with arched ceilings. The filing equipment is wooden, the papers being kept in wooden pigeonholes.

County Clerk

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' AND SUPERVISORS' RECORDS

County Commissioners' Record, 1843–1855, 1 v.

County Court Record, 1856–1877, 2 v. (A, B)

County Commissioners' Record, 1877–date, 4 v. (C–F)

County Commissioners' Papers, 1843–date.

The papers include reports to the board, claims filed, petitions, bonds of various sorts, etc. They are wrapped and labeled by years.

Jury List, 1872–date, 1 v

COUNTY COURT RECORDS

County Court Record, 1872–date: Common Law, 2 v. (1–2): Criminal, 4 v. (1–4)

Index to County Court Record, 1872–1909, 1 v. each for plaintiff and defendant.

The entries include names of parties, kind of action, when commenced, reference to record, amount and date of judgment, etc. The index was discontinued, November, 1905.

County Court Files (common law and criminal), 1872–date.

These are wrapped in manila folders, labeled, and arranged chronologically on shelves in vault.

Naturalization Record, 1880–1906, 2 v. (A, 2)

Judges' Docket, 1872–date, 5 v. (A, 1–4)

Judgment Docket, 1872–date, 2 v. (1–2)

Execution Docket, 1872–date, 1 v. (1)

[1]Examined April, 1912.

Insanity Docket, 1893–date, 1 v. (A)

"History of case," setting forth name, age, and other information about person alleged to be insane, with names of parties making complaint, names of jury, etc. are given.

County Court Fee Book (common law and criminal), 1872–date, 8 v.

Insanity Fee Book, 1895–date, 1 v.

TAXATION RECORDS

"Auditors' Transcript of Lands Entered in Massac Co.," c. 1818–1857, 1 v.

School District Plats, 1867–date, 2 v.

Assessors' Books, 1843–date, in county clerk's vault.

Collectors' Books, 1856–date, in sheriff's office.

Railroad Tax Book, 1889–date, 2 v. (1–2)

Tax Judgment Record, 1860–1879, 2 v. (1–2)

Tax Judgment, Sale, Redemption, and Forfeiture Record, 1880–date, 3 v. (3–5)

Record of Affidavits for Tax Deeds, 1868–date, 3 v. (1–3)

RECORDS OF VITAL STATISTICS

Marriage Record, April, 1843–December, 1855, 1 v.

The volume is 8 x 13 inches.

Marriage Record, January, 1856–May, 1876, 3 v. (A–C)

This is a record of licenses granted, giving names and dates; and of certificate of marriage by the person officiating.

Marriage Record (adults), 1877–date, 9 v. (3–11)

Copy of license and certificate of marriage, giving names, ages, and date of marriage are recorded. July, 1905–date (v. 8–11) the record contains also record of applications for license.

Marriage License Record (minors), 1874–date, 4 v. (2–5)

The volumes contain records of licenses and certificates of marriage.

Register of Marriages, 1878–date, 2 v. (1–2)

Board of health form is used.

Record of Applications for Marriage License, 1907–date, 3 v. (1–3)

Marriage Licenses, 1843–date.

These are labeled by years and filed in various places in the office.

Register of Births, 1878–date, 3 v. (1–3); Index, 1 v.

Register of Still Births, 1878–date, 2 v. (A, 1)

Register of Deaths, 1878–date, 2 v. (1–2); Index, 1 v.

Birth Reports, 1877–date.

Death Reports, 1877–date.

These are tied up in bundles and labeled by years.

Record of Physicians' Certificates, 1877–date, 2 v. (1–2)

Register of Physicians and Accoucheurs, 1878–date, 1 v.

Dentists' Register, 1877–date, 1 v. (1)

The contents include names, ages, residence of dentists, date and college of graduation, and degree.

Schedule of Agricultural Statistics, 1879, 1 v.

The statistics include number of acres of corn and wheat in cultivation, and number of bushels produced; also number and value of stock, amount realized by sale of butter, cream, wool, and orchard products; names of owners of above property.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Justices' Bond Record, 1873–date, 2 v. (1–2)

Constables' Bond Record, 1873–date, 2 v. (1–2)

Register of Officers, 1861–date, 1 v. (A)

The register includes names of county and township officers, date of election or appointment, term of office, residence, and amount of bond. The volume contains also abstract of votes on the liquor question, 1907–date.

Record of Officers, 1863–date, 1 v. (A)

The record contains oaths and bonds of county officers, judges, justices and constables (to 1873), county commissioners, etc.

Estray Record, 1862–1895, 1 v.

Militia Roll Record, 1861–1862, 1 v.

A list of able bodied men between 18 and 45 years old subject to military duty.

Swamp Land Record, 1856–1870, 1 v.

Lands sold, giving date of sale, description and amount of land and the name of purchaser are listed.

Jail Register, 1879–1910, 1 v.

The register includes name of prisoner, age, sex, color, occupation, civil condition, birthplace, residence, health, habits, amount of property, whether able to read and write, date committed, by whom, offense, date of sentence, sentence, by what court, date of discharge, and mode of discharge.

Report of Fines, 1890, 1908–date, 1 v.

These are reports of fines collected by states' attorney, justice of the peace, etc.

County Clerk—Probate

PROBATE COURT RECORDS

Probate Record, September, 1843–March, 1845, 1 v.

The contents include all records—wills, letters, oaths, bonds, sale bills, settlements, and reports of administrators, etc.

Probate Record, November, 1844–November, 1848, 1 v.

The contents are the same as in the above.

Probate Record, October, 1849–February, 1858, 3 v.

This is a record of appointment of guardians and administrators and also of reports and settlements made. The volume is 8 x 13 inches in size.

Probate Journal, January, 1866–date, 14 v. (1–14)

Probate Files, 1843–date.

Files are wrapped in manila covers and labeled "Probate Papers, Letter—" according to the initial letter of estates inclosed. There is no index to the files.

Judges' Probate Docket, January, 1850–August, 1853, 2 v.; 1859–1901, 3 v. (A, 1–2)

The first series measures 8 x 13 inches. The volumes contain name of estate, name of administrator, date of bond and letters, amount of bond and name of surety, names of widow and heirs, date and amount of sale and inventory bill, and remarks of judge as to progress in estate.

Guardians' Docket, 1873–date, 2 v. (C–D)

The volumes contain names of minor and guardian, date of letters, amount of bond, names of sureties, date and amount of inventory, and remarks of court.

Probate Judgment Docket, 1859–date, 2 v. (A–B)

The volumes are indexed by estate and by claimant.

Probate Fee Book, 1882–date, 2 v. (3, 4) and also 1 v. (A), n.d.

RECORDS OF WILLS, BONDS, AND LETTERS

Record of Wills, January, 1861–date, 3 v. (A–C)

Administrators' Record, March, 1862–date, 5 v. (A–E)

Executors' Record, 1879–date, 1 v. (B)

Executors' and Guardians' Record, 1 v. (A)

The record contains letters and bonds of executors, 1863–1877, and letters and bonds of guardians, 1862–1872.

Guardians' Record, July, 1872–date, 4 v. (2–5)

Miscellaneous Bond Record, 1874–date, 1 v. (A)

Bonds and letters of administrators de bonis non, and administrators with will annexed are recorded.

INVENTORIES, APPRAISEMENTS, SALE BILLS, ETC.

Appraisement, Inventory and Sale Bill Record, July, 1849–March, 1855, 1 v.

Inventory Record, 1862–date, 4 v. (A–D)

Guardians' Inventory Record, 1876–date, 1 v. (1)

Appraisement Record, 1861–date, 6 v. (A–F)

Sale Record, 1866–date, 3 v. (A–C)

Administrators' and Executors' Report Record, 1885–date, 2 v. (1–2)

These are reports of money received and paid out, giving source of income and purpose of expenditure.

Guardians' Report Record, 1885–date, 3 v. (2–4)

Widows' Relinquishment and Selection Record, 1881–1909, 2 v. (1–2)

Widows' Selection Record, 1909–date, 1 v. (3)

Clerk of the Circuit Court

CIRCUIT COURT RECORDS

Circuit Court Record, 1843–date, 44 v. (A–Z, 1–18)

Volumes A–H (1843–1872) contain common law, chancery, and criminal records. Beginning with 1872 the records are kept in separate volumes but numbered consecutively.

Index to Court Record, 1858–date, 3 v. each for plaintiff and defendant.

Circuit Court Files (common law, chancery, and criminal), 1843–date.

The papers are wrapped in manila covers and labeled by terms or years and placed in 5 x 5 inch pigeonholes. There are about 675 such pigeonholes.

Naturalization Record: Final Certificate, 1862–1904, 1 v. (A); Discharged Soldiers, 1868–1872, 1 v. (A)

DOCKETS AND FEE BOOKS

Judges' Docket, 1843–date, 23 v. (A–W)

Judgment Docket, 1843–date, 10 v. (A–J)

Execution Docket, 1843–date, 4 v. (A–D)

Docket of Mechanics' Liens, 1887–date, 1 v. (1)

Fee Book, 1843–date, 19 v. (1–2, A–Q)

Justice of the Peace Transcript Record, 1889–date, 1 v. (B)

Register of Jurors, 1860–date, 1 v. (1)

The volume registers names of jurors and amount received for service.

States Attorneys' Report Record, 1873, 1882–1906, 1 v.

Reports of fines collected, naming case and kind of action are recorded.

Indictment Record, 1875–1878, 1 v.

Circuit Clerk—Recorder

DEED AND MORTGAGE RECORDS

Entry Book, 1860–date, 12 v. (A–L)

"Abstract of Lands belonging to Massac County, Ill. Recorded in Pope Co.," 1836–1843, 1 v.

The volume is labeled "Entry Book A."

Deed Record, 1842–date, 56 v. (A–Z, 1–30)

Mortgage Record, 1860–date, 31 v. (A–Z, 1–5)

Up to about 1890 chattel and real estate mortgages were kept in same volumes. More recently they are kept in separate volumes which are numbered consecutively.

Plat Book, 1892–date, 1 v.

Lease Record, Mineral Lands, 1872, 1 v. (215 p.)

General Index, 1843–date, 14 v. each for grantor and grantee.

Index to Marginal Releases and Assignments, 1905–date, 1 v. (1)

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Masters' Sale and Redemption Record, 1862–date, 2 v. (A–B)

Record of Sheriffs' Certificates of Levy and Sale, 1859–date, 2 v. (A–B)

Surveyors' Record, 1886–1910, 1 v. (1)

Field Notes, Massac County, 1 v.

The notes were transcribed in 1853 from records of the surveyor general of Illinois and Missouri at St. Louis. They contain plats and descriptions of corners of sections and quarter sections.

Entry Book, c. 1836–1866, 1 v.

Original land entries, giving names of patentees, description of land, etc. are listed.

Stallion Register, 1910–date, 1 v. (1); Renewals, 1 v. (2)

Miscellaneous Record, 1897–date, 2 v.

The contents include agreements, affidavits, etc.

Record of City Council of Metropolis, 1870–1873, 1 v., labeled "Journal;" 1889–1894, 1 v. (C)

McDONOUGH COUNTY[1]

McDonough county was set off from Schuyler in 1826, but not organized until 1830; the county seat is Macomb. The building and vaults are fireproof. The records are kept in steel cases, and are well arranged. A part of the files are in steel filingboxes. Some records from the county clerk's office are in an attic storeroom.

County Clerk

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' AND SUPERVISORS' RECORDS

Commissioners' and Supervisors' Record: Commissioners, 1830–1856, 5 v. (A–E); Supervisors, 1856–date, 11 v. (F–P)

Files of Proceedings of Board of Supervisors, 1872–1895, loose files in attic; 1883–date, 36 f.b.

Road Papers (reports of viewers, and surveys), 1831–1850, in attic.

COUNTY COURT RECORDS

County Court Record, 1872–date, 4 v. (1–4)

County Court Files, 1872–date: Common Law, 5 f.b.; Criminal, 22 f.b.

Assignment Record, 1879–date, 2 v. (A–B)

Insane and Conservators' Record, 1883–1911, 1 v. (B)

Insanity Record, 1878–1893, 1 v. (A)

Insanity Files, 1870–date, 23 f.b.

Naturalization Record: Declaration of Intention, 1889–1906, 2 v.; Final Certificate, 1889–1906, 1 v.; Minors, 1891–1904, 1 v.

Judges' Docket, 1872–date, 5 v. (1–5)

Judgment Docket, 1856–date, 2 v. (A–B)

Execution Docket, 1859–date, 2 v. (A–B)

Insanity Docket, 1893–date, 3 v. (1–3)

County Court Fee Book, 1872–date, 4 v. (1–4)

Insane and Conservators' Fee Book, 1890–1911, 1 v. (1)

[1] Examined July–August, 1912; reëxamined June, 1915.

TAXATION RECORDS

School Plats, 1864–1872, 1 v.; 1886–date, 1 v.
Assessors' Books, 1837–date.
Collectors' Books, 1835–date.
Assessors' and collectors' books prior to 1900 are in attic.
Railroad Tax Book, 1859–1872, 1873–1875, 1880–date, 6 v.
Tax Judgment Record, 1858–1861, 1 v.; 1868–1875, 2 v. (A, D)
Tax Sale Record, 1839–1850, 3 v.; 1858–1868, 1868–1883, 2 v. (E–F)
Abstract of Tax Sales and Payments, 1824–1860, 6 v.
Tax Judgment, Sale, Redemption, and Forfeiture Record, 1883–date, 27 v.
Record of Affidavits for Tax Deeds, 1872–date, 1 v.

RECORDS OF VITAL STATISTICS

Marriage Register, 1830–date, 16 v. (A–P)
Contents: number of license, names of parties, date of marriage, record of certificate of marriage.
Record of Applications for Marriage License, 1881–date, 15 v. (A–H, 1–7)
Register of Births, 1878–date, 6 v. (1–6)
Register of Deaths, 1878–date, 4 v. (1–4)
Coroners' Death Certificate Record, 1910–date, 1 v.
Record of Physicians, 1877–date, 2 v. (1–2)
Register of Physicians and Accoucheurs, 1877–date, 1 v.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Official Bond Record, Justices and Constables, 1879–date, 1 v. [?]
Record of Assessors' Bonds, 1898–date, 1 v.
Files of Official Bonds, 1880–date, 9 f.b.
Register of County Officers, 1830–1849, 1 v.
Register of County and Township Officers, 1857–date, 4 v. (1–4)
Militia Roll Record, 1861–1862, 1 v.
Estray Record, 1857–1868, 1 v. [?]
Miscellaneous Record, 1880–date, 3 v. (1–3)
Assignments, articles of agreement, contested wills, etc. are recorded in this record.
Record of School Lands, 1831–1847, 1 v.

County Clerk—Probate

PROBATE COURT RECORDS

Probate Record, 1833–date, 42 v. (1–3, A–Z, AA–MM)
Probate Invoice Record, 1841–1848, 1 v. [?]
Probate Judgment Record, 1859–date, 7 v. (A–G)
Probate Files, 1887–date, 384 f.b.

DOCKETS AND FEE BOOKS

Probate Judges' Docket, 1882–date, 12 v. (B–M)
Probate Fee Book, 1858–date, 11 v. (A–J, 1–2)
Volume J is a miscellaneous volume containing adoption, dependent and delinquent children, insanity, etc.
Conservators' Fee Book, 1909–1911, 1 v.
Guardians' and Conservators' Fee Book, 1911–date, 1 v.

RECORDS OF WILLS, BONDS, AND LETTERS

Record of Wills, "Book of Wills," 1848–1863, 1 v.; 1834–date, 7 v. (A–G)
Record of Bonds and Letters of Administration and Guardianship, 1850–1856, 1 v.
Administrators' Record, 1858–date, 7 v. (A–G)
Executors' Record, 1858–date, 5 v. (A–E)
Conservators' Record, 1884–date, 2 v. (1–2)
Guardians' Record, 1858–date, 7 v. (A–G)
Administrators' Record with Will Annexed, 1883–date, 2 v. (A–B)
Administrators' Record de Bonis Non, 1883–date, 1 v. (A)
Additional Bond Record, 1898–date, 1 v.

INVENTORIES, APPRAISEMENTS, AND SALE BILLS

Inventory, Appraisement, and Sale Bill Record, 1856–1865, 1 v.
Guardians' and Conservators' Inventory Record, 1874–date, 2 v. (1, B)
Inventory Record, 1859–date, 8 v. (A–H)
Appraisement Record, 1859–date, 7 v. (A–G); special form, 1909–date, 1 v.
Copartnership Inventory Record, 1901–date, 1 v.
Sale Record: Personal Property, 1859–date, 4 v. (A–D); Public Sale, 1903–date, 2 v. (E–F)

Record of Petition and Order to Sell Personal Property, 1887–date, 1 v. (1)

REPORT RECORDS, ETC.

Probate Report Record, 1850–1864, 1 v.; 1864–1868, 1 v.
Administrators' and Executors' Report Record, 1894–date, 3 v. (1–3)
Administrators' Report Record, 1885–date, 5 v. (A–E)
Conservators' Report Record, 1902–date, 1 v. (1)
Guardians' Report Record, 1885–date, 5 v. (A–E)
Probate Discharge Record, 1899–1903, 1 v. (1)
Estate Ledger, 1865–date, 5 v. (A–E)
Widows' Relinquishment and Selection Record, 1874–1909, 2 v. (A–B)
Widows' Selection Record, 1909–date, 1 v. (1)
Record of Sales of Real Estate: Administrators, 1885–date, 2 v. (A–B); Guardians, 1885–date, 1 v. (A)

Clerk of the Circuit Court

CIRCUIT COURT RECORDS

Circuit Court Record: Common Law, 1830–date, 19 v. (A–S); Chancery, 1830–date, 28 v. (A–Z, 1–2); Criminal, 1870–date, 7 v. (A–G)
Complete Record (common law), 1841–1842, 1 v. (A)
A record of ejectment actions.
Circuit Court Files (common law, criminal, and chancery), 1857–date, 1–1147 f.b.
Naturalization Record, 1854, *et seq.*, 4 v.

DOCKETS AND FEE BOOKS

Judges' Dockets, 1855–date.
Court Dockets, 1858–date.
Judgment Docket, 1833–date, 14 v. (1–14)
Execution Docket, 1851–date, 7 v. (A–G)
Fee Book, 1858–date, 35 v. (F–Z, 1–14)
Justice of the Peace Transcript Record, 1852–date, 7 v. (B–H)

Circuit Clerk—Recorder

DEED AND MORTGAGE RECORDS

Entry Book, 1830–date, 39 v. (1–39)

Deed Record, 1830–date, 115 v. (A–Z, 26–115)

There are also three volumes of transcribed deeds, 1818 *et seq.*

Grantee and Grantor Index, complete, 17 v. each.

Mortgage Record, 1836–date, 70 v. (A–Z, 1–44); Index, 16 v. (1–16) each for mortgagor and mortgagee

Assignment Record, 1901–date, 1 v. (1)

Record of assignment of mortgage.

Chattel Mortgage Record, 1858–date, 33 v. (1–33)

Tract Book, 12 v.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Record of Masters' Certificates of Levy and Purchase, 1883–date, 1 v. (3)

Record of Certificates of Levy, 1841–1858, 1 v. (1)

Record of Certificates of Sale, 1860–1906, 1 v. (A)

Record of Certificates of Redemption, 1860–1903, 1 v. (A)

Plats of Surveys, 1883–date, 2 v. (2–3)

Surveyors' Record, 1883–date, 2 v. (E–F)

Descriptions and Specifications of Surveys, 1856, 1 v.

Plat Book, (township plats) 2 v.

Collectors' Bond Record, 1857–date, 4 v. (A–D)

Stallion Register, 1911–date, 1 v. (1); Renewals, 1 v. (1)

Miscellaneous Record, 1883–date, 5 v. (1–5)

The record contains certificates of election of trustees, leases, articles of incorporation, mortgages, powers of attorney, etc.

McHENRY COUNTY[1]

McHenry county was organized from Cook and La Salle in 1837; the county seat is Woodstock. The courthouse, which is located in a public square, is not fireproof. There are two fireproof vaults, an upper and a lower for each office. These are fitted with metal furnishings.

County Clerk

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' AND SUPERVISORS' RECORDS

County Commissioners' Court Record, 1837–1848, 1 v. (A)

Supervisors' Record, 1848–date, 5 v. (A–E)

In the back of v. A is a copy of the muster rolls of McHenry county, 1861–1862.

Supervisors' Papers, 1850–1907, L.V.; 1908–date, 6 f.b., in vault.

Road Papers, 1845–date, 3 f.b., in vault.

The papers include petitions, plats, surveys, etc.

Road Index, 1 v. (1)

Description of road and reference to road plats on file are given.

Jury List, 1872–date, 2 v.

COUNTY COURT RECORDS

County Court Record, 1854–date, 4 v. (A–D)

Judgment by Confession Record, 1884–date, 2 v. (1–2)

County Court Files (common law and criminal), 1854–date, 25 f.b., in vault.

Insanity Record, 1893–date, 1 v. (B)

Findings and orders of court are recorded.

Insanity and Conservators' Record, 1875–1893, 1875–1896, 1 v. (A)

This is a record of insanity cases, 1875–1893, and of conservators' bonds and letters, 1875–1896. Label on volume is: "Insanity Record."

Naturalization Record, 1858–1906, 6 v. (A–C, 1–3)

DOCKETS, FEE BOOKS, ETC.

Judgment Docket, 1872–date, 2 v. (A, 1)

[1] Examined August, 1912.

Execution Docket, 1878–date, 1 v. (1)
Judgment [and Execution] Docket, 1911–date, 1 v. (2)
Execution Docket, 1854–1872, 1 v.
Insanity Docket, 1893–date, 2 v. (A–B)
County Court Fee Book, 1872–date, 2 v. (1–2)

TAXATION RECORDS

Docket of Rates and Amounts Wanted, 1901–date, 1 v. (1)
Land [Entry] Book, c. 1830–1855, 1 v.
School Plat Record, 1860–date, 2 v. (1–2)
Assessors' Book (real estate), 1847–1848.
Assessors' Books, 1850–date.
Collectors' Books, 1850–date.
Railroad Tax Book, 1874–date, 3 v.
Telephone and Telegraph Tax Book, 1895–date, 2 v. (2–3)
Tax Judgment Record, 1846–1879, 2 v. (A–B)
Tax Sale and Redemption Record, 1849–1879, 2 v. (A–B)
Tax Judgment, Sale, Redemption, and Forfeiture Record, 1880–date, 5 v. (D–H)

RECORDS OF VITAL STATISTICS

Marriage Register, July, 1837–February, 1878, 2 v. (A–B)
The register contains names of parties, date of license, when and by whom married. Volume B, 1875–1878, gives ages also.
Register of Marriages, 1877–date, 3 v. (1–3)
Board of health form is used.
Marriage Licenses and Affidavits, 1837–1856, 2 f.b., L.V.; 1856–date, 27 f.b., in vault.
Register of Births, 1877–date, 4 v. (1–4); Index, 1 v.
Register of Still Births, 1877–date, 1 v.
Register of Deaths, 1877–date, 3 v. (1–3); Index, 1 v.
Birth Reports and Death Reports, 1877–date.
The reports are tied in bundles and shelved in lower vault.
Record of Physicians' and Dentists' Certificates, 1877–date, 2 v. (1–2)
Register of Dentists, 1877–date, 1 v. (1)
Record of Physicians and Accoucheurs, 1877–date, 1 v. (1)
Census Schedules, McHenry County, for years 1850, 1860, and 1870, L.V.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Election Returns (poll books and abstract of votes), 1837–1884.
These are tied in bundles, labeled, and stored in lower vault.

Assessors' Bond Record, 1899–date, 1 v. (1)
Justices' and Constables' Bond Record, 1889–date, 2 v. (A–B)
Register of County and Township Officers Elected, 1863–date, 2 v. (B–C)
Record of Soldiers' Discharges, 1866–1902, 1 v. (B)

County Clerk—Probate

PROBATE COURT RECORDS

Probate Record, 1840–date, 26 v. (A–Z)
Up to 1849 all probate records were kept in same volumes.

Probate Judgment Record, 1868–date, 6 v. (A–F)
Record that claimant came into court and filed claim against an estate, and the order of court are given.

Probate Files, 1840–date, 204 f.b., in vault; Index, 1 v.
The entries include number of file, name of estate or ward, name of administrator or executor, date of letters, and remarks.

DOCKETS AND FEE BOOKS

Probate Judges' Docket, 1858–date, 39 v. (1–19, 1–20)
Probate Judgment Docket, 1858–date, 6 v. (A–F)
Docket of Claims against Estates, 1889–date, 1 v. (1)
The volume gives date and amount of claim, nature of claim, name of claimant, and date allowed by court.

Estate Docket, 1857–date, 7 v. (A–G)
Probate Fee Book, 1850–date, 9 v. (1, A–H)

RECORDS OF WILLS, BONDS, AND LETTERS

Will Record, 1866–date, 9 v. (A–I)
Administrators' Record, 1858–date, 8 v. (A–H)
Executors' Record, 1858–date, 6 v. (A–F)
Conservators' Record, 1896–date, 1 v. (B)
Guardians' Record, 1858–date, 5 v. (A–E)
Record of Administrators' Bonds, for Sale of Real Estate, 1887–date, 1 v. (1)

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Record of Inventory, Appraisement, and Sale Bills, 1849–1856, 1 v.
Inventory and Sale Bill Record, 1857–1865, 1 v. (B)
Inventory Record, 1865–date, 9 v. (C–K)
Guardians' Inventory Record, 1873–date, 1 v. (A)
Appraisement Record, 1858–date, 8 v. (A–H)
Sale Record, 1866–date, 4 v. (C–F)
Administrators', Executors', and Guardians' Report Record, 1850–1885, 7 v. (A–G)
Administrators' and Executors' Report Record, 1886–date, 6 v. (H–M)
Guardians' Report Record, 1886–date, 3 v. (H–J)
Widows' Relinquishment and Selection Record, 1894–date, 3 v. (1–3)

Clerk of the Circuit Court

CIRCUIT COURT RECORDS

Circuit Court Record, May, 1838–date, 54 v. (1–54)
Up to 1875 (v. 17), common law, chancery and criminal records are in same volume. Since then they are in same series but separate volumes.
Index to Court Records, 1858–date, 6 v. each for plaintiff and defendant.
Circuit Court Files, 1838–date, 836 f.b.

DOCKETS AND FEE BOOKS

General Docket, 1838–date, 8 v. (A–D, 1–4)
Judges' Docket, 1838–date, 1 v. for each term of court.
Judgment Docket, 1838–date, 11 v. (A, 1–10)
Execution Docket, 1849–date, 4 v. (1–4)
Docket of Mechanics' Liens, 1887–date, 1 v. (1)
Fee Book, 1838–date, 30 v. (1–30)
Justice of the Peace Transcript Record, 1850–date, 4 v. (1–4)
States Attorneys' Report Record, 1873–date, 1 v. (1)

Circuit Clerk—Recorder

DEED AND MORTGAGE RECORDS

Entry Book, 1838–date, 17 v. (1–17)

Deed Record, 1837–date, 152 v. (A–M, 1–139)

Release records are kept in same series with deeds but not in the same volumes.

Mortgage Record, 1848–date, 116 v. (B–C, 1–114)

General Index to Deeds, 1837–date, 16 v. each for grantor and grantee.

General Index to Mortgages, 1837–date, 9 v. each for mortgagor and mortgagee.

Chattel Mortgage Index, 1885–date, 4 v.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Record of Sheriffs' and Masters' Certificates of Levy, Sale, and Redemption, 1845–date, 6 v. (A, 1–5)

Surveyors' Record, 1885–date, 1 v. (1)

Incorporation Record, 1897–date, 2 v. (1–2)

Register of Bonds, 1850–1861, 1 v. (1)

Collectors' Bond Record, 1861–date, 2 v. (A–B)

Township Treasurers' Bond Record, 1889–date, 1 v. (1)

Stallion Register, 1910–date, 2 v. (1–2)

McLEAN COUNTY[1]

McLean county was set off from Tazewell in 1830; the county seat is Bloomington. The county has a separate recorder's office. The records in McLean county are for the most part kept in the offices of the clerks, the vaults being small. The present courthouse, which is fireproof, replaces one burned in 1900. The most serious losses occurred in the circuit clerk's office, where the files up to 1900 and some of the less important records were destroyed.

County Clerk

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' AND SUPERVISORS' RECORDS

County Commissioners' Court Record,[2] May, 1831–October, 1849, 2 v. (A–B)

The records include petitions for roads, ad quod damnum proceedings, jury lists, licenses for taverns, ferries, stores, etc., and rates specified, boundaries of road districts, tax levies, settlement of claims against county, etc.

County Court Record, December, 1849–September, 1858, 2 v. (C–D)

Index to County Commissioners' Records, 1831–1858, 1 v.

Supervisors' Record, 1858–date, 14 v. (A–N)

Board of Supervisors' Roll Call and Votes, 1887–1904, 1 v.

This is a roll of members showing attendance and votes on aye and nay decisions.

Index to Supervisors' Record, 1892–1903, 1 v. (1)

Road Plat Record, 1 v.

The date is c. 1860–1880.

Road Plats, 1880–date, 1 v.

Jury List, 1904–date, 2 v.

[1] Examined February, 1912.

[2] At December term of county commissioners court, 1832, John Scott, Ebenezar Barnes, William McGhee and Thomas Sloan came in to prove themselves revolutionary soldiers and avail themselves of the benefits of act of Congress of June 7, 1832. The court accepted the evidence as true and conclusive. At June term, 1833, Edward F. Patrick and Charles Moore came in. At February term, 1834, John Toliday came in.

COUNTY COURT RECORDS

County Court Record: Criminal, 1872–date, 4 v.; Common Law, 1872–date, 6 v.; Recognizance, 1883–1895, 1 v.; Confession, 1886–date, 2 v.; Default, 1882–1886, 1 v. (1)

Index to Court Record, 1872–date, 3 v. each for plaintiff and defendant.

County Court Files, 1872–date, 225 f.b.; Index, 1 v.

Common law and criminal papers are filed together.

Drainage Record, 1882–date, 2 v. (1–2)

Record of Voluntary Assignments, 1877–date, 4 v. (1–4)

Inventories and schedules of liabilities are recorded.

Insanity Record, 1887–date, 6 v.

The volumes contain a record of trial and findings of commission, appointment of conservator and commitment to asylum.

Naturalization Record: Declaration of Intention, 1859–1906, 2 v. (1–2); Final Certificate, 1864–1906, 3 v. (A–C)

County Court Docket, 1872–date, 6 v. (1–6)

Judgment and Execution Docket, 1872–date, 7 v. (1–7)

County Court Fee Book, 1872–date, 7 v. (1–7)

Index to Miscellaneous Court Papers, 1 v.

Insanity, dependency, delinquency and adoption cases, certificates of moral character, etc., are indexed in this volume. The index gives reference to records and also to original papers on file.

TAXATION RECORDS

Original Land Entry Book, 1821–1868, 1 v.

Docket of Rates and Amounts Wanted, 1888–date, 3 v. (1–3)

Tax Levy Certificates, 1899–date, 10 f.b., L.V.

Railroad Tax Schedules, 1899–date, 5 f.b., L.V.

Telephone and Telegraph Schedules, 1901–1904, 3 f.b., L.V.

Tax Books: Assessors and Collectors, Telegraph and Telephone, Railroad, 1900–date.

The earlier tax records were in attic and were destroyed in the fire of 1900.

Board of Review Docket, 1899–date, 2 v.

Tax Judgment Record, 1842–1880, 11 v. (A–K)

Tax Sale and Redemption Record, 1837–1880, 13 v. (1–13)

Tax Judgment, Sale, Redemption, and Forfeiture Record, 1880–date, 27 v. (14–40)

Record of Affidavits for Tax Deeds, 1854–date, 4 v. (1–4)
Tax Sale Certificates, 1900–date, 10 f.b., L.V.
Affidavits for Tax Deeds, 1900–date, 10 f.b., L.V.

RECORDS OF VITAL STATISTICS

Record of Marriages, 1831–1874, 7 v. (A–G)
The series contains names of parties, date of license, certificate of marriage and date.

Record of Marriages, 1874–1877, 1 v. (H)
The record gives date of license, names and ages of parties, when married and by whom, and when registered.

Register of Marriages, 1877–April, 1906, 4 v. (I–L)
The board of health form is used. It was discontinued in 1906.

Marriage License Register, 1906–date, 2 v. (M–N)
Gives only certificate of marriage by officer, showing names of parties, ages and residence, date of marriage, and number of license.

Index to Marriage Records, 1831–date, 3 v.
Record of Applications for Marriage License, 1889–date, 25 v. (1–25)
Marriage Licenses, 1899–date, 22 f.b., L.V.
Register of Births, 1878–date, 13 v. (1–13)
Register of Deaths, 1878–date, 8 v.
Birth Reports, 1899–date, 17 f.b., L.V.
Death Reports, 1900–date, 18 f.b., L.V.
Record of Physicians' Certificates, 1877–date, 1 v. (1)
Physicians' Record, 1900–date, 1 v. (2)
Certificates of examination of physicians, nurses, midwives, etc. are recorded.

Register of Physicians and Accoucheurs, 1877–date, 1 v.
Record of Veterinary Surgeons' Certificates, 1900–date, 1 v.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Poll Book for Election of Delegates to Constitutional Convention, 1847, in historical society room.
Justices' and Constables' Bond Record, 1878–date, 2 v. (A–B)
Assessors' Bond Record, 1899–date, 2 v.
Township Elections, 1868–1874, 1 v.
List of officers elected and residence are listed.

List of Officers Elected, 1900–1910, 5 f.b., L.V.

Contains a list of county and township officers.

Register of Volunteers, 1861–1864, 1 v. (A)

The register gives name, rank, company, regiment, when and where enlisted and for how long; when, how and where discharged; promotions, if any; amount of bounty; remarks. The volume is labeled "Soldiers' Register."

Record of Soldiers' Discharges, 1863–1907, 2 v. (A–B)

A record of discharge, showing name, rank, company, date of enlistment and discharge and cause, place of birth, occupation, personal description, etc.

Record of Fines and Forfeitures, 1889–date, 2 v.

Reports of fines, penalties, and forfeitures by states attorney, justices of the peace, etc. are recorded.

County Clerks' Register of Fees, 1898–1907, 5 v.

Swamp Land Record, 1850–1881, 1 v.

County Clerk—Probate

PROBATE COURT RECORDS

Probate Court Record, May, 1834–October, 1834, 1 v.

The volume includes all probate records, wills, letters, appraisements, sale bills, claims, court orders, etc.

Probate Court Record, November, 1833–March, 1838, 1 v.; November, 1836–March, 1839, 1 v.

Probate Court Record, December, 1849–date, 32 v. (F–Z, 27–37)

Probate Files (estates, guardianships, etc.), 1831–date, 394 f.b.; Index, 1 v.

All probate papers are filed together chronologically.

DOCKETS AND FEE BOOKS

"Probate Docket C," 1838–1849, 1 v.

In front of volume (pp. 1–150) is a docket of claims filed and allowed against estates. In the back of the volume are 48 pages containing inventories, appraisements, and sale bills, August, 1848–September, 1849.

Probate Court Docket, 1862–date, 16 v.

This is a docket of claims and court orders thereon.

Probate Estate Docket, 1853–1875, 1 v. (A)

Probate Judgment Docket, 1877–1882, 1 v. (C); 1897–date, 4 v. (G–J)

Probate Fee Book, 1850–date, 19 v. (A–S)

RECORDS OF WILLS, BONDS, AND LETTERS

Record of Wills, Bonds, and Letters, 1838–date, 17 v. (1–17)

Administrators' Bond Record, 1908–date, 1 v. (1)

Letters and bonds of administrators de bonis non, and of administrators with will annexed are recorded.

Administrators' Record, 1866–date, 10 v.

Executors' Record, 1866–date, 10 v.

Guardians' Record, 1879–date, 6 v. (8–13)

INVENTORIES, APPRAISEMENTS, SALE BILLS, ETC.

Inventories, Appraisements, and Sale Bills [Record], March, 1845–May, 1848, 1 v.

Inventory Record, July, 1850–date, 10 v. (2–11)

Guardians' Inventory Record, 1872–date, 5 v.

Appraisement Record, 1849–date, 8 v. (2–9)

Copartnership Appraisement Record, 1885–1908, 1 v. (1)

Sale Bill Record, 1850–date, 6 v. (2–7)

Report Record, October, 1847–December, 1849, 1 v.

The record includes reports of executors, administrators, etc. of management and settlement of estates. The volume is labeled "Probate Records."

Report Record, 1877–date, 25 v. (1–25)

Guardians', administrators', and executors' reports are recorded.

Probate Ledger, 1852–date, 28 v. (A–Z, 27–28)

These are ledgers of current accounts of guardians, administrators, and executors.

Widows' Relinquishment and Selection Record, 1874–date, 2 v. (1–2)

Widows' Award and Selection Record, 1910–date, 1 v.

Widows' Allowance Record, 1870–1872, 1 v.

Record of Decree and Report of Sale of Real Estate to Pay Debts, 1908–date, 1 v. (3)

Clerk of the Circuit Court

CIRCUIT COURT RECORDS

Circuit Court Record: Common Law, Chancery, and Criminal, 1831–1850, 3 v. (1–3); Common Law and Criminal, 1850–1857, 2 v.; Chancery, 1850–date, 58 v.; Common Law, 1858–date, 28 v.; Criminal, 1858–date, 11 v.

Complete Record, 1856–1866, 1 v.

Circuit Court Files, 1900–date, 250 f.b.; Index, 1 v.

All papers of earlier date than 1900 were destroyed by the fire.

Naturalization Record: Declaration of Intention, 1859–1906, 2 v.; Final Certificate, 1853–1906, 4 v.

DOCKETS AND FEE BOOKS

Judges' Dockets, 1900–date.

Judgment and Execution Docket, 1832–date, 21 v. (1–21)

Fee Book, 1850–date, 49 v.

Justice of the Peace Transcript Record, 1858–date, 6 v.

Recorder

DEED AND MORTGAGE RECORDS

Entry Book, 1846–date, 28 v. (2–29)

Deed Record, 1831–date, 291 v.

Mortgage Record, 1850–date, 231 v.

Prior to 1850 mortgages were recorded with deeds. Chattel mortgages are kept in same series with real estate mortgages, but in separate volumes.

Plat Book, 1867–date, 9 v.; Index, 1 v.

The volumes contain plats of lots, towns, additions, etc.

Deed Index, 1831–date, 17 v. each for grantor and grantee.

Mortgage Index, 1850–date, 12 v. each for mortgagor and mortgagee.

Land Entry Book, c. 1829–1854, 2 v. (1–2)

These are labeled "Numerical Index."

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Record of Incorporations, 1872–1877, 1 v.

Record of Certificates of Levy and Sale, 1852–date, 5 v. (A–E)

Township Surveys, 8 v.

Field notes of surveys of township boundaries, as copied from books in auditors' office, 1894, are given.

Surveyors' Record, February, 1840–June, 1855, 1 v. (1); May, 1853–May, 1869, 1 v. (2)

Military Record, 1861, 1 v.

Collectors' Bond Record, 1859–date, 5 v.

Stallion Register, 1910–date, 1 v.; Renewals, 1911–date, 1 v.

MENARD COUNTY[1]

Menard county was set off from Sangamon in 1839; the county seat is Petersburg. The courthouse is supposedly fireproof. The bulk of the records of both county and circuit clerks are kept in a large office vault of hollow tile on the second floor. The filing equipment is metal but there is a great deal of wood about the offices. Each clerk has another vault on the floor below with wooden equipment. The records of both offices are in fairly good order, and the county clerks' miscellaneous papers are well arranged and indexed.

County Clerk

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' AND SUPERVISORS' RECORDS

County Commissioners' Record, 1839–date, 10 v.
County Commissioners' Papers, 1839–date, 21 f.b.
Road Papers, 1839–1886, about 200 f.b.
Register of County Orders, 1839–1847, 1 v.

COUNTY COURT RECORDS

County Court Record, 1872–date, 2 v.
County Court Files, 1872–date, 150 f.b., in basement.
Drainage Record, 1892–date, 1 v.
Insanity Record, 1872–date, 3 v.
Naturalization Record: Declaration of Intention, 1861–1904, 2 v.; Final Certificate, 1861–1904, 2 v.; Minors, 1861–1904, 2 v.
Judges' Docket, 1872-date, 2 v.
Judgment Docket, 1872–date, 1 v.
Execution Docket, 1872–date, 1 v.
Fee Book, 1872–1874, 1 v.; 1874–1907, 1 v.; Insane and Conservators, 1891–date, 1 v.; Common Law and Criminal, 1910–date, 1 v.; Criminal, Insane, etc., 1912–date, 1 v.
Docket of Fines, 1875, 1 v.
Land Entry Book, 1847, 1 v.

[1] Examined July–August, 1912; reëxamined, April, 1914.

TAXATION RECORDS

Entries of Conveyances, 1872, 1 v.
Road Tax Lists, 1839–1886, in basement.
School Plat Record, 1874–1890, 1 v.
Assessors' Books, 1845–date.
Collectors' Books, c. 1849–date.
Record of Delinquent Taxes, 1839–1863, 2 v.
Tax Judgment Record, 1840–1848, 1 v.; 1867–1879, 1 v.
Record of Sales for Taxes, 1839–1879, 3 v.
Record of Lands Forfeited to the State, 1875–1877, 1 v.
Tax Judgment, Sale, Redemption, and Forfeiture Record, 1880–date, 2 v.
Record of Affidavits for Tax Deeds, 1870–date, 1 v.

RECORDS OF VITAL STATISTICS

Marriage Record, 1839-date, 5 v. (A–B, 1–3)
Register of Births, 1878–date, 3 v.
Register of Deaths, 1878–date, 2 v.
Register of Physicians, 1877–date, 2 v.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Election Returns, 1839–1903, 60 f.b.
Register of County Officers, 1866–date, 1 v.
Patent Record, 1869, 1 v.
Estray Record, 1839–1856, 1 v.; 1856–1868, 1 v.; 1876-1892, 1 v.
Register of Railroad Bonds, 1870–1878, 1 v.
Swamp Land Record, 1850 *et seq.*, 1 v.
Index to papers in basement vault, 1 v.

County Clerk—Probate

PROBATE COURT RECORDS

Probate Record, 1839–date, 17 v. (1–16, and extra v. 2)
Probate Files, 1839–date, 159 f.b.

These boxes also contain common law files, county commissioners' files, etc.

DOCKETS AND FEE BOOKS

Probate Court Docket, 1859–1881, 1 v.

Probate Judges' Docket, 1874–date, 14 v. (A–N)
Execution Docket, 1850–1872, 1 v.
[Probate] Judgment Docket, 1859–1872, 1 v. (A)
Probate Judgment Docket, 1870–date, 4 v.
Claim Docket, 1881–1907, 1 v.
Probate Fee Book, 1870–date, 10 v. (A–J); also 1 v. (A), 1859–1891, and 1 v. (2), 1867–1872.

RECORDS OF WILLS, BONDS, AND LETTERS

Record of Wills, 1861–1884, 1 v.
Record of Affidavit of Notice to Creditors to Appear, 1872, 1 v.
Administrators' Record, 1849–1860, 1 v.; 1868–date, 4 v. (A–D)
Executors' Record, 1868–date, 5 v. (A–E)
Volume A, 1861–1868, is in basement; this series includes wills.
Conservators' Record, 1873–date, 2 v.
Guardians' Record, 1868–date, 3 v.
Record of Bonds and Letters of Guardianship, 1861–1869, 1 v.
Miscellaneous Probate Record, 1880–date, 3 v.

INVENTORIES, APPRAISEMENTS, SALE BILLS, ETC.

Inventory, Appraisement, and Sale Record, 1840–1859, 1 v.; 1859–1873, 3 v.
Inventory Record, 1874–date, 4 v. (B–E)
Guardians' Inventory Record, 1873–date, 1 v.
Appraisement Record, 1874–date, 3 v.
Copartnership Inventory and Appraisement Record, 1890–date, 1 v.
Sale Record (personal property), 1873–date, 3 v.
Probate Ledger, 1856–1866, 1 v. (A)
Estate Ledger, 1867–1874, 1 v.
Probate Accounts Current, 1840–1864, 3 v. (1–3)
Report Record, 1870–date, 7 v. (A–G)
Guardians' Report Record, 1886–date, 4 v. (E–H)
Widows' Award and Selection Record, 1873–date, 5 v. (A–B, 3–5)
Record of Sale of Real Estate, 1869–1874, 1 v.; 1892–date, 1 v.

Clerk of the Circuit Court

CIRCUIT COURT RECORDS

Circuit Court Record (common law and criminal), 1839–date, 7 v. (A–G)

Chancery Record, 1847–date, 12 v. (1–12)

Foreclosure Record, 1874–date, 2 v.

Default Record, 1870–1890, 1 v.

Recognizance Record, 1872–date, 1 v.

Circuit Court Files, 1839–date, 193 f.b.

Index to Court Records, 1858–date, 3 v. each for plaintiff and defendant.

Naturalization Record: Declaration of Intention, 1859–1906, 1 v.; Final Certificate, 1860–1894, 1 v.; 1852–1860, 1 v. (manuscript)

DOCKETS, FEE BOOKS, ETC.

General Docket, 1874–1877, 1 v.

Judges' Docket, 1854–1881, 4 v.; 1882–date, 6 v.

Clerks' Docket, 1861–1867, 1 v.

Judgment Docket, 1839[?]–date, 4 v.

Execution Docket, 1840–date, 4 v.

Docket of Mechanics' Liens, 1893–date, 1 v.

Naturalization Docket, 1871–1884, 1 v.

Fee Book, 1839–1849, 1 v.; 1850–1858, 1 v.; 1871–1875, 1 v.; 1876–date, 5 v.

Justice of the Peace Transcript Record, 1847–date, 3 v.

Register of Receipts and Expenditures, 1873–date, 3 v.

Circuit Clerk—Recorder

Entry Book, 1865–date, 5 v. (A–E)

Transcripts from Sangamon County Records, 1827–1839, 3 v.

Deed Record, 1839–date, 61 v. (1–61)

Record of Bond for Deed, 1870–date, 1 v.

The record is of bonds to execute deeds in case specified payments are made.

Mortgage Record, 1858–date, 43 v. (A–Z, 1–17)

Record of Affidavit for Extension of Mortgage, 1888–date, 1 v.

General Index, 6 v. each for grantor and grantee; 2 v. each for mortgagor and mortgagee,

Index to Release Deeds, 1905–date, 1 v.

Record of Sheriffs' Certificates of Purchase and Levy, 1859–date, 1 v.

Record of Certificates of Levy, Sale, and Redemption, 1873–date, 1 v.

Record of Masters' Certificates of Sale and Redemption, 1872–date, 1 v.

Township Treasurers' Bond Record, 1890–date, 1 v.

Miscellaneous Record, 1867–date, 6 v. (A–F)

This contains long forms of deeds and mortgages, acts of incorporation, powers of attorney, etc.

MERCER COUNTY[1]

Mercer county was set off from Pike in 1825, but not organized until 1835; the county seat is Aledo. The courthouse is located in a square and is fireproof. The only vault is one small one used for probate files. The records of both clerks are in their offices, except a few of the county clerk's old records and files which are in a storeroom fitted with wooden cases. Elsewhere the filing material is metal.

County Clerk

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' AND SUPERVISORS' RECORDS

County Commissioners' and Supervisors' Record, 1835–date, 7 v. (1–7)

County Court Files, 1839–date, in basement cupboard.

Register of County Orders, 1890–date, 3 v.

Road Record, 1850–1862, 1 v.

Road Plats, 1880–1897, 1 v.

Road Papers, 1836–1860, in basement.

Jury List, 1872–date, 2 v.

COUNTY COURT RECORDS

County Court Record, 1872–date, 4 v.; Index by plaintiff and defendant.

Record of Judgment by Confession, 1895–date, 1 v.

County Court Files, 1872–date, 60 f.b.; Index, 1 v.

Drainage Record, 1885–date, 2 v. (B–C)

Drainage Assessment Record, 1891 *et seq.*, 1 v.

Assignment Record, 1878, 1 v.

Insane and Conservators' Record, 1874–date, 6 v.

Naturalization Record: Declaration of Intention, 1878–1907, Final Certificate, 1878–1886, 1 v.; 1886–1903, 1 v.

General Docket, 1897–date, 1 v.

Judges' Docket, 1872–date, 6 v.

[1] Examined July–August, 1912; reëxamined April, 1914.

Judgment Docket, 1872–date, 1 v.
Execution Docket, 1872–date, 1 v.
Naturalization Docket, 1890–1905, 1 v.

TAXATION RECORDS

Abstract of Assessment and Statement of Taxes, 1871–1872, 1 v.; 1890–1900, 1 v.
Auditors' Transcript of Land Office Sales, 1823–1850, 1 v.
Delinquent Tax List, 1855–1880, 14 v., in basement.
School Plat Record, 1860–date, 3 v.
Record of Plats, n.d., 2 v.
Assessors' Books, 1853–date.
Collectors' Books, 1843 [?]–date.
Railroad Tax Book, 1873–1886, 2 v.; 1892–date, 2 v.
Board of Review Record, 1899–date, 2 v.
Board of Review Complaint Docket, 1 v.
Delinquent Road Tax Lists, 1835–date, 60 f.b., in basement.
Tax Sale Record, 1835–1876, 4 v.
Tax Judgment Record, 1869–1880, 2 v.
Forfeiture Record, 1879–1890, 2 v.
Tax Judgment, Sale, Redemption, and Forfeiture Record, 1880–date, 6 v. (F–K)
Tract Index to Tax Judgments, 1822–date, 4 v.
Record of Affidavits for Tax Deeds, 1853–date, 4 v. (B–E)
County Collectors' Accounts, 1873–1888, 1 v.
County Treasurers' Accounts, 1874–1889, 1 v.
County Treasurers' and Collectors' Accounts, 1889–1892, 1 v.

RECORDS OF VITAL STATISTICS

Register of Marriages, 1835–1876, 2 v.; 1877–date, 2 v.
The board of health form is now used.
Record of Applications for Marriage License, 1889–date, 10 v.
Marriage Licenses, 1835–date,
Register of Births, 1878–date, 4 v. (1–4); Index, 1 v.
Register of Still Births, 1878–date, 1 v.
Register of Deaths, 1878–date, 3 v. (A–C); Index, 1 v.
Record of Physicians' Certificates, 1877–date, 2 v.
Register of Physicians and Accoucheurs, 1878–date, 1 v.
Dental Register, 1897–date, 1 v.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Election Returns, Election of County Officials, 1855 *et seq.*, 8 f.b.
Register of Commissions of County Officers, 1839–date, 3 v.
Record of Marks and Brands, 1836–1908, 1 v.
Estray Record, 1836–1907, 2 v.
County Clerks' Register of Fees, 1874–date, 3 v.
School Commissioners' Reports, 1840–1855, 1 f.b.
Swamp Land Record, 1853–1857, 1 v.

County Clerk—Probate

PROBATE COURT RECORDS

Probate Journal, 1837–date, v. 1–14, K–Z, 1A–1G; Index, 1835–1857, 1 v.
Probate Files, 1850–date, 108 f.b.

DOCKETS AND FEE BOOKS

Judges' Estate Docket, 1888–date, 9 v. (2–10)
Guardians' Estate Docket, 1878–date, 1 v.
Probate Judgment Docket, 1850–date, 12 v. (1–12)
Volume 1 is unnumbered.
Probate Claim Docket, 1850–1870, 3 v.
Docket of Official Bonds in Probate, 1875–1910, 5 v. (1–5)
This series is now used merely for bonds for sale of real estate.
Probate Fee Book, 1850–1859, 1 v.; 1874–date, 12 v. (A–L)
This series includes "B," common law fee book, 1874–1900, and "D," criminal fee book, 1872–date, also "J," current common law and criminal.

RECORDS OF WILLS, BONDS, AND LETTERS

Record of Wills, 1850–date, 6 v.
Executors' record was included with the will record till 1903 when a separate v. "5" for executors was begun.
Executors' Record, 1861–1862, 1 v.
Administrators' Record, 1858–date, 6 v. (1–6)
Guardians' Record, 1853–date, 4 v.
Miscellaneous Bond Record, 1880–date, 3 v. (A–C)

INVENTORIES, APPRAISEMENTS, SALE BILLS, ETC.

Inventory, Appraisement, and Sale Bill Record, 1859–date, 2 v. (A–B); v. C–K, Inventory and v. C–K, Appraisement.

Guardians' Inventory Record, 1874–date, 2 v.
Sale Record, 1878–date, 3 v. (G–I)
Estate Ledger, 1872–date, 5 v. (A–E)
Report Record, 1854–date, 12 v. (1–12, 2 v. unnumbered)
Widows' Relinquishment and Selection Record, 1900–date, 1 v.
Record of Sale of Real Estate, 1867–date, 5 v. (1–5)

Clerk of the Circuit Court

CIRCUIT COURT RECORDS

Circuit Court Record: Common Law and Criminal, 1836–date, 18 v. (B–S); Chancery, 1839–date, 19 v. (A–S)
Index, 1856–date, 3 v. (A–C) each for plaintiff and defendant.
Tax Judgment Record, 1840–1841, 1 v.
Circuit Court Files: Chancery, 1839–date, 154 f.b.; Common Law, 1857–date, 123 f.b.; Criminal, 1875–date, 21 f.b.
Naturalization Record: Declaration of Intention, 1852–1868, 1 v.; Declaration and Final Certificate, 1868–1890, 1 v.; 1890–1903, 1 v. each for declaration and final certificate.
Naturalization Papers, 1840–1892, 1 f.b.

DOCKETS, FEE BOOKS, ETC.

General Docket, 1893–date, 2 v.
Judges' Docket, 1853–1858, 2 v.; 1859–1908, 17 v. (C–T, v. G missing); loose-leaf docket, 1908–date.
Clerks' Docket, 1859–1909, 11 v. (C–N, v. D missing)
Trial Docket, 1842–1858, 3 v.
Judgment Docket, 1839–date, 7 v. (A–G)
Execution Docket, 1839–1843, 1 v.; 1844–date, 5 v. (B–F)
Executions, 1839–date, 23 f.b.
Docket of Mechanics' Liens, 1892–date, 2 v.
Naturalization Docket, 1877–1894, 1 v.
Fee Book, 1840–date, 17 v. (A–E, G, I–S)
Justice of the Peace Transcript Record, 1859–date, 3 v. (B–D)
Volume B contains also a record of tax judgments, 1842–1849.
Transcripts of Foreign Judgments, 1895–date, 1 v.
Jury Venires, 1875–date, 2 f.b.
Indictment Record, 1870–1875, 1 v.

Probate Record, 1897–1898: Estate Fee Book, Claims Docket, Index to Claims Docket, Estate Docket, Ledger, 1 v. each.
Register of Receipts and Expenditures, 1876–date, 3 v.

Circuit Clerk—Recorder

DEED AND MORTGAGE RECORDS

Entry Book, 1835–1877, 6 v. (A–F); 1898–date, 5 v. (1–5)
Between 1877 and 1898 the entry book is in the same volumes with the indexes.
Entry Book to Mortgage Records, 1844–1873, 4 v.
Deed Record, 1835–date, 135 v. (A–Z, 1–109)
Plat Record, 1869–date, 2 v. (A–B); Index, 1 v.
Mortgage Record, 1844–1889, 26 v. (A–Z); after 1889 in same series with deeds.
Deed and Mortgage Index, 10 v. (A–E), 2 v. for each letter.
Grantor–Grantee Entry Book, 1877–1898, 7 v. (I–O); Index for grantor and grantee, 1898–date, 16 v. (P–W), 2 v. each letter.
Entry Book (chattel mortgages), 1870–1873, 1 v.
Chattel Mortgage Record, 1857–date, 31 v. (A–Z, 1–5); Index from v. J, 2 v.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Record of Sheriffs' Certificates of Levy and Sale, 1847–date, 8 v. (A–G, 2 v. for "A")
Record of Masters' Certificates of Purchase and Redemption. 1858–date, 6 v. (A–F)
Certificates of Purchase, 1842–date, 3 f.b.
Surveyors' Record, 1885–date, 1 v.
Official Bond Record, Township Assessors, 1890–date, 1 v.
Town Collectors' Bond Record, 1864–1887, 1 v.
Record of Soldiers' Discharges, 1865–1900, 1 v.
Stallion Register, 1911–date, 1 v.; Renewals, 1 v.
Record of United States Surveys, 1 v.

MONROE COUNTY[1]

Monroe county was organized in 1816 from St. Clair and Randolph, and was enlarged by further acts in 1825, 1827, and 1829; the county seat is Waterloo. The courthouse, which is located in a public square, is not fireproof. The vaults, however, are modern, and the building is equipped with electric light and steam heat. Only a few records are outside the vaults.

County Clerk

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' AND SUPERVISORS' RECORDS

"Minute Book G," June, 1816–September, 1819, 105 p.

This contains county commissioners' records, probate records, etc.

County Commissioners' Court Record, December, 1819–date, 11 v. (A–K)

County Commissioners' Papers, 1857–date, 24 f.b., in vault.

Road Record Book, 1870–1882, 1 v. (A)

Reports of commissioners appointed to lay out road, road plats and surveys are included.

Road Papers, 1820–1884.

These contain petitions, plats, surveys, reports of road commissioners, etc.

Index to Roads, 1819–1870, 2 v.

COUNTY COURT RECORDS

County Court Record, 1872–date, 1 v. (1)

This contains a record of common law and criminal cases.

County Court Files (common law and criminal), 1872–date, 6 f.b.

Drainage Record, 1880–date, 2 v. (1–2)

Drainage and Levee Assessment Record, 1882–date, 3 v.

This contains an assessment of damage done properties by levees and ditches.

Drainage Papers, 1878–date, 19 f.b.

Insane and Conservators' Record, 1878–1893, 1 v. (A)

[1] Examined May, 1912.

Insanity Record, 1894–date, 2 v. (B–C)
Insanity Files, 1878–date, 2 f.b.
Naturalization Record, 1866–1904, 3 v. (A–C)
The record contains declarations of intention and final certificates of naturalization.
Judges' Docket, 1872–date, 1 v.
This is a common law and criminal docket.
Judgment Docket, 1872–date, 1 v. (1)
Execution Docket, 1872–date, 1 v. (1)
County Court Fee Book, 1872–date, 3 v.

TAXATION RECORDS

School District Plat Book, 1863–1876, 1 v., 8 x 14 inches.
Corporation Tax Schedules, 1901–date, 1 f.b.
Assessors' Books, 1841–date.
These are all in basement except those for 1910–date.
Collectors' Books, 1851–date, in vault.
Board of Review Record, 1899–date, 1 v. (1)
Board of Review Complaint Docket, 1899–date, 1 v. (1)
Tax Judgment Record, 1862–1880, 3 v. (B–D)
Tax Sale and Redemption Record, 1833–1879, 6 v. (1–6)
Record of Forfeited Lands, 1873–1879, 3 v. (A–C)
Tax Judgment, Sale, Redemption, and Forfeiture Record, 1880–date, 6 v. (7–12)
Record of Affidavits for Tax Deeds, 1877–date, 1 v. (A)
Collectors' Accounts, County Funds, 1877–1906, 1 v.

RECORDS OF VITAL STATISTICS

Marriage Record, 1816–date, 10 v. (1–10), indexed.
Volumes 1–3, 1816–1858, contain only the certificate with names and dates; volumes 4–10 include license and certificate, giving names and dates, and after 1874 ages and addresses.
Register of Marriages, 1877–date, 2 v. (1–2)
Index to Marriages, 1816–date, 3 v.
Marriage Licenses, 1816–date, 14 f.b.
Register of Births, 1878–date, 4 v.
Register of Still Births, 1877–date, 1 v. (1)
Register of Deaths, 1878–date, 2 v. (1–2)
Birth Reports, 1878–date, 8 f.b.

Death Reports, 1878–date, 3 f.b.
Register of Physicians' and Midwives' Certificates, 1878–date, 2 v.
Census Schedules, 1880, 7 folios.
Abstract of Agricultural Statistics, 1877–1879, 1 v., in basement.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Official Bond Record, 1878–date, 1 v. (A)
This contains bonds of county officers.

Register of Commissions, 1861–date, 1 v.
Militia Roll Record, 1861–1862, 1 v. (A)
Record of Marks and Brands, 1816–1868, 1 v.
Record of Estrays, 1861–1878, 1 v.
Surveyors' Official Plat Book (town lots platted), 1886, 1 v.
Village Organization Papers, 1895–date, 1 f.b.
Miscellaneous Record, 1866–date, 2 v.
The contents are: appointment of deputies; certificates of moral character; powers of attorney; etc.

County Clerk—Probate

PROBATE COURT RECORDS

Probate Journal, 1821–date, 14 v. (A–O)
Volume C, 1846–1849 is missing. The journal contains court orders and decrees, reports and settlements filed, claims allowed, record of proof of will, etc., and other proceedings of court.

Probate Files, 1820–date, 186 f.b.

DOCKETS AND FEE BOOKS

Index to Estates, 1845–date, 2 v. (A–B)
These volumes contain name of estate, name of executor, administrator, or guardian, date of letters and where recorded, date of first and final settlement, amount of assets reported, amount of claims allowed, and remarks.

Judges' Docket, 1893–date, 1 v. (1)
The docket contains name of person, date of petition for trial and name of petitioner, names of witnesses and jury, and order of court.

Probate Judges' Docket, 1866–date, 11 v. (A–K)
Probate Judgment Docket, 1859–1870, 1 v. (A)

Estate Docket, 1857–1864, 1 v. (A), labeled "Docket A."
Probate Fee Book, 1878–date, 6 v. (A–F)

RECORDS OF WILLS, BONDS, AND LETTERS

Record of Wills, Bonds, and Letters, 1815–1862, 4 v. (A–D)
These volumes contain also a few inventories and sale bills.

Will Record, 1862–date, 5 v. (E–I)
The volume records copies of wills, and beginning with v. F (1867), probate of will and proof of death also.

Administrators' Record, December, 1849–December, 1857, 2 v.; 1858–date, 7 v. (A–G)

Executors' Record, 1865–date, 4 v. (A–D)
Besides the bond, oath, and letters, the volumes record filing of petition for letters, etc. There are two pages to each estate.

Guardians' Record, 1858–date, 5 v. (A–E)

INVENTORIES, APPRAISEMENTS, AND SALE BILLS

Inventory, Appraisement, and Sale Bill Record, 1859–1865, 1 v. (A)
Inventory Record, 1878–date, 2 v. (B–C)
Guardians' Inventory Record, 1878–date, 1 v. (A)
Appraisement Bill Record, 1865–1873, 2 v. (B–C); 1910–date, 1 v. (1)
Sale Bill Record, 1865–1873, 1 v. (B)

REPORT RECORDS, ETC.

Accounts Current Record, 1857–date, 7 v. (D–J)
Guardians' Report Record, 1903–date, 2 v. (B–C)
Guardians' Accounts Current, 1878–1902, 1 v. (A)
Widows' Relinquishment and Selection Record, 1909–date, 1 v. (1)
Record of Decrees on Petitions to Sell Real Estate to Pay Debts, 1866–1871, 1 v. (A)
Record of Proceedings on Guardians' Petitions to Sell Real Estate, 1877–1882 (pp. 1–31); 1903 (pp. 32–35), 1 v. (A)
From 1882–1903 the record was not used.

Administrators' Sale Record, 1874–1903, 2 v. (B–C)
These volumes contain petitions to sell real estate to pay debts, decree of court, and report of sale.

Clerk of the Circuit Court

CIRCUIT COURT RECORDS

Circuit Court Record: Common Law, Chancery, and Criminal, 1826–1874, 12 v.; Chancery, 1874–date, 13 v.; Common Law, 1874–date, 2 v.; Criminal, 1874–date, 2 v.

Index to Court Record, 1858–date, 2 v. each for plaintiff and defendant.

Circuit Court Files (common law, chancery, and criminal), 1817–1857, 138 f.b., in basement.

Chancery Files: Foreclosures, 1822–date, 26 f.b.; Divorces, 1859–date, 5 f.b.; Partitions, etc., 1848–date, 33 f.b.

Circuit Court Files: Common Law, 1880–date, 14 f.b.; Criminal, 1871–date, 6 f.b.

Files in Appeal Cases, 1874–date, 5 f.b.

Naturalization Record, 1860–1898, 2 v. (1–2)

DOCKETS, FEE BOOKS, ETC.

Judges' Docket, 1848–date, 13 v.

Judgment Docket, 1859–1899, 2 v. (2–3)

Execution Docket, 1816–1831, 1 v.; 1859–1907, 2 v. (4–5)

Judgment and Execution Docket, 1881–date, 1 v.

Lien Docket (docket of mechanics' liens), 1898–date, 1 v. (1)

Fee Book, 1861–date, 14 v. (3–16)

Justice of the Peace Transcript Record, 1886–date, 1 v. (C)

States Attorneys' Report Record, 1877–date, 1 v.

Indictment Record, 1875–date, 2 v.

Circuit Clerk—Recorder

DEED AND MORTGAGE RECORDS

Entry Book, 1882–date, 3 v. (1–3)

Deed Record, 1816–date, 58 v. (A–Z, 1–32)

Mortgage Record, 1865–date, 17 v. (1–17)

Release Record, 1867–date, 2 v. (1–2)

Plat Book, 1857–date, 1 v. (A)

General Index, 1816–date, 4 v. each for grantor and grantee.

Mortgage Index, 1865–date, 2 v. each for mortgagor and mortgagee.

Index to Marginal Releases, 1905–date, 1 v.

Chattel Mortgage Record, 1865–date, 19 v. (1–19); Index, 3 v.

Volumes 1–13 are in basement.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Record of Sheriffs' Certificates of Levy and Sale, 1861–date, 2 v. (B–C)

Record of Sheriffs' Certificates of Redemption, 1861–date, 1 v. (1)

Masters' Certificate of Sale Record, 1860–date, 2 v. (B–C)

Record of Articles of Incorporation, 1896–date, 1 v.

This contains articles of agreement, etc.

Record of Officers' Bonds, 1860–date, 1 v.

Bonds of masters in chancery, township collectors, etc. are included.

Land Entry Book, 1814–1857, 1 v.

Record of United States Surveys, 1874.

The record contains descriptions and locations of exterior and interior section and quarter section corners.

Miscellaneous Record, 1909–date, 1 v. (1)

Stallion Register, 1910–date, 1 v. (1)

Sixth Census of United States, 1840, 1 v. (2 copies)

Compendium of Sixth Census, 1 v.

Eighth Census of United States (1860), Manufactures, 1 v., in basement.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY[1]

Montgomery county was organized in 1821, in territory formerly belong- to Bond and Madison; in 1827 it received part of Fayette; the county seat is Hillsboro. The courthouse is located in a square and has modern record equipment. The records are in the offices with the exception of a few circuit clerk's records, which are in the loft.

County Clerk

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' AND SUPERVISORS' RECORDS

County Commissioners' and Supervisors' Record, 1821–date, 11 v.
The first volume also contains marriage records, 1821–1830, and earmarks, 1821–1846.

COUNTY COURT RECORDS

County Court Record, 1872–date: Default, 1 v. (1); Common Law, 2 v. (2–3); Criminal, 2 v. (3–4)

Index to Court Record, 1873–date, 1 v. each for plaintiff and defendant.

Drainage Record, 1897–date, 1 v.

Insanity Record, 1886–date, 2 v.

Naturalization Record: Declaration of Intention and Final Certificate, 1862–1906, 4 v.; Minors, 1888–1902, 1 v.; Soldiers, 1865–1884, 1 v.

Judges' Docket, 1872–1877, 1 v.; 1886–date, 3 v.

Judgment Docket, 1872–date, 1 v.

Execution Docket, 1861–date, 1 v.

Fee Book: Common Law, 1878–date, 2 v. (2–3); Criminal, 1874–date, 4 v. (2–5); Insanity, 1894–date, 2 v.

TAXATION RECORDS

Original Land Entry Book, 1819–1832, 1 v.

Entry Book, 1837–1847, 3 v.

[1] Examined July, 1912; reëxamined April, 1914.

School District Plat Book, 1874–date, 2 v.
Assessors' Books, 1830–1847, 1854–date.
Collectors' Books, 1854–date.
Railroad Tax Book, 1874–1875, 1 v.; 1875–1881, 1 v.; 1887–1897, 1 v.
Telegraph and Telephone Tax Book, 1901–1907, 1 v.
Telegraph Tax Book, 1884–1893, 1 v. [?]
Board of Review Complaint Docket, 1899–date, 3 v.
Delinquent Land Taxes, 1857–1867, 1 v.
Tax Judgment Record, 1868–1879, 3 v.
Tax Forfeiture Record, 1872–1891, 2 v.
Tax Judgment, Sale, Redemption, and Forfeiture Record, 1862–1886, 6 v.; 1883–date, 4 v.
Record of Affidavits for Tax Deeds, 1886–1904, 1 v.

RECORDS OF VITAL STATISTICS

Register of Marriages, 1821–date, 9 v. (1–9)
Record of Applications for Marriage License, 1896–date, 8 v.
Register of Births, 1877–date, 7 v. (1–7)
Register of Deaths, 1877–date, 3 v.
Record of Physicians' Certificates, 1877–date, 1 v.
Register of Physicians and Accoucheurs, 1877–date, 1 v.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Estray Record, 1821–1888, 2 v.
Militia Roll Record, 1860–1862, 1 v.
Record of School Commissioners' Reports: Sales, 1837–1868; Petitions for Sales, 1837–1846, 2 v. [?]

County Clerk—Probate

PROBATE COURT RECORDS

Probate Record, 1821–1850, 6 v. (A–F); 1850–date, 26 v. (A–Z)
Record of Claims Allowed against Estates, 1873–1899, 1 v.
Probate Files, 1855–date, 261 f.b.

DOCKETS AND FEE BOOKS

Probate Estate Docket, 1855–date, 4 v. (A–D)
Probate Docket, 1864 *et seq.*, 2 v. (A–B); 1897–date, 6 v. (U–Z)

Probate Judgment Docket, 1858–date, 7 v. (A, C–H)
Probate Fee Book, 1858–date, 12 v.
Probate Fee Book of Claims, 1873–1908, 1 v.

RECORDS OF WILLS, BONDS, AND LETTERS

Record of Wills, 1867–date, 4 v. (B–E)
Record of Administrators' Bonds and Letters, 1850–1858, 1 v. (A)
Record of Administrators' and Guardians' Bonds and Letters, 1857–1866, 1 v.
Administrators' Record, 1863–date, 5 v. (C–G)
Record of Executors' Bonds and Letters, 1851–1874, 1 v. (A); 1875–date, 2 v. (B–C)
Record of Guardians' Bonds and Letters, 1850–1856, 1 v.
Record of Miscellaneous Bonds and Letters (will annexed, de bonis non, etc.), 1875–date, 2 v. (A–B)
Record of Guardians' and Administrators' Bonds, Sale of Real Estate, 1903–date, 1 v.

INVENTORIES, APPRAISEMENTS, AND SALE BILLS

Inventory, Appraisement, and Sale Bill Record, 1849–1867, 1 v.
Estate Inventory Record, 1868–date, 6 v. (B–G)
Guardians' Inventory Record, 1874–date, 2 v.
Appraisement Record, 1859–date, 9 v. (A–I)
Sale Record, 1869–date, 5 v.

REPORT RECORDS

Administrators' Accounts Current, 1854–1868, 1 v.
Guardians' Ledger, 1868–date, 2 v.
Estate Ledger, 1866–date, 4 v.
Report Record, 1878–1883, 2 v.; 1890–1894, 1 v.
Administrators' Report Record, 1889–1906, 1 v.
Record of Guardians' Accounts Current, 1858–1874, 1 v.
Guardians' Report Record, 1886–date, 5 v. (A–E)
Insolvent Estate Record, 1875–date, 1 v.
Widows' Relinquishment and Selection Record, 1874–date, 5 v. (A–D)
Miscellaneous Record, 1850–1873, 1 v.

The record contains court orders relative to sale of real estate, and court docket.

Clerk of the Circuit Court

CIRCUIT COURT RECORDS

Circuit Court Record, 1821–date, 27 v. (1–27)
Index, 1857–date, 5 v. each for plaintiff and defendant.
Circuit Court Files, 1821–date: Common Law and Criminal, 168 f.b.; Chancery, 112 f.b.
Judges' Docket, 1859–1908, 26 v. (A–Z); loose-leaf docket, 6 current v.
Clerks' Dockets, 1875–date, a few scattered volumes.
Judgment Docket, 1826–1846, 1 v.; 1861–1884, 3 v. (1–3)
Execution Docket, 1826–1847, 1 v.; 1847–1862, 3 v.; 1862–1884, 3 v. (4–6)
Judgment and Execution Docket, 1885–date, 4 v. (7–10)
Indictment Docket, 1872, 1 v.
Fee Book, 1858–date, 18 v. (C–T); Common Law, 4 v. (1–4); Chancery, 3 v. (1–3); Criminal, 2 v. (1–2)
Indictment Record, 1896 *et seq.*, 1 v. (A)
Justice of the Peace Transcript Record, 1896–date, 5 v.

Circuit Clerk—Recorder

Entry Book, 1837–date, 12 v. (1–12); also two earlier v.
Deed Record, 1821–date, 143 v. (A–Z, 1–117)
Mortgage Record, 1859–date, 67 v. (1–67)
Release Record, 1869–date, 15 v. (1–15)
Grantor–Grantee Index, 10 v. each.
Mortgagor–Mortgagee Index, 6 v. each.
Abstract Records, 4 v.; also 8 v. in attic.
Chattel Mortgage Record, 1904–date, 7 v. (25–31)
Earlier records through a misunderstanding have been removed as waste paper.
Surveyors' Record, 1885–date, 1 v.
Railroad Record, 1889–date, 3 v.
Record of Certificates of Levy, Sale, and Redemption, 1861–date, 5 v. (1–5)
Incorporation Record, 1910–date, 1 v.
Stallion Register, 1910–date, 1 v.
Miscellaneous Record, 1869–date, 13 v.

MORGAN COUNTY[1]

Morgan county was set off from Greene and Sangamon in 1823; the county seat is Jacksonville. A large number of the older records are in a very dirty attic.

County Clerk

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' AND SUPERVISORS' RECORDS

County Commissioners' Court Record, 1827–1850, 4 v. (A–D)

County Court Record, 1850–date, 12 v. (E–P)

County Commissioners' Reports, 1831–1849, 1 v.

The reports note land descriptions, land surveys, laying of town sites, etc. The volume is labeled "Record of Reports, etc.,—School Lands."

Claims Allowed by County Commissioners, 1827–date, 265 f.b.

Record of Road Plats, 1872–1873, 1 v.

Road Viewers' Reports, 1823–1893, 24 f.b.

Register of Warrants, 1880–1898, 5 v. (B–F)

Grand and Petit Jury List, 1866–1881, 1 v.

Miscellaneous material in filingboxes: supervisors' reports, 1846–1887; petitions to county board; reports of clerks; legal opinions to county board; reports of overseer of poor; reports of superintendent of poor farm; railroad assessments, etc., 1873–1877.

COUNTY COURT RECORDS

County Court Record, 1872–date: Common Law and Criminal, 1872–1885, 4 v. (1–4); Common Law, 1885–date, 3 v. (4–6); Criminal, 1885–date, 2 v. (A–B)

County Court Files (common law and criminal), 1874–date, 178 f.b.

Common law and criminal case papers are filed together in wrappers of different colors. There are also miscellaneous files for drainage, special assessment, juvenile and inheritance tax proceedings. All county court and probate files are indexed in one volume.

[1] Examined June, 1912; reëxamined June, 1915.

Insolvent Debtors' Record, 1877–1910, 2 v. (1–2)
Bankruptcy Assignments, 1882–1908, 6 f.b.
Inheritance Tax Appraisement Warrants, 1899–date, 8 f.b.
Insanity and Conservators' Record, 1878–1891, 2 v. (A–B)
This is an insanity record only.

Findings and Orders of Insanity Jury, 1893–1898, 1 v. (A)
Insanity Record, 1894–date, 3 v. (C–E)
Insanity Files, 1894–date, 10 f.b.
Naturalization Record: Declaration of Intention, 1867–1906, 1 v.; Minors, 1865–1905, 4 v. (A–D); Discharged Soldiers, 1866–1898, 1 v.; Final Certificate, Adults, 1883–1906, 3 v. (A–C)
Naturalization Papers, 1836–1848, 2 f.b.; 1890–1906, 6 f.b.
Judges' Docket (common law and criminal), 1867–date, 10 v.
Judgment Docket, 1872–date, 3 v.
Execution Docket, 1872–date, 2 v.
Insanity Docket, 1892–date, 3 v. (1–3)
Insanity record and docket were kept together 1892–1894 in v. 1.
Attorneys' Receipts for Papers taken from Office of the County Court, 1895–1909, 3 v.

TAXATION RECORDS

Original Land Entry Record (auditor's transcript), 1823–1827, 1 v.; also 5 v. in attic.
In the middle of the volume is a record of tax sales, for the years 1833, 1834, 1835.

Tax Levies, 1860–date.
Part of these are in folio boxes in the attic.

Assessors' Books, 1835–date.
Collectors' Books, 1837, 1842, 1847, 1850, 1857, 1871–date.
Railroad Tax Book, 1879–date, 2 v. (1–2)
Record of Proceedings of the Board of Review, 1899–date, 1 v. (1)
Delinquent Tax List of Real Estate, 1850–1862, 1 v.
Tax Judgment Record, 1862–1880, 3 v.
Lists of Lands sold for Taxes, 1842–1848, 1 v.; 1850–1862, 2 v.
List of Town Lots sold for Taxes, 1839–1848, 1 v.
Tax Judgment, Sale, Redemption, and Forfeiture Record, 1880–date, 4 v.

Two of the volumes in the above series are labeled "Judgment Sale and Redemption Record."

Record of Affidavits for Tax Deeds, 1872–1874, 1 v.; 1873–date, 1 v.

RECORDS OF VITAL STATISTICS

Record of Marriages, 1827–1887, 3 v. (A–C)

The record gives names of man and woman, by whom married, date of license, etc.

Index to Marriage Record, Book C, 1 v.

Register of Marriages, 1878–date, 3 v. (1–3)

Index to Register of Marriages, 1878–date, 1 v.

Marriage Licenses, 1850–date, 36 f.b.

Register of Births, 1878–date, 6 v.

Register of Still Births, 1878–date, 1 v. (A)

Register of Deaths, 1878–date, 6 v.; Index, 2 v.

Birth Reports, 1878–date.

Death Reports, 1878–date.

Register of Physicians and Accoucheurs, 1878–date, 1 v.

Register of Nurses, 1909–date, 1 v.

Record of Physicians' Certificates, 1865–date, 2 v. (A–B)

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Poll Books and Tally Sheets, 1829–1907, 142 f.b.

Estray Record, 1833–1837, 1843–1854, 1855–1895, 3 v.

Coroners' Record, 1869–1892, 1 v. (A)

The volume records names of deceased, jury and witnesses, verdict, inventory of personal effects, description of deceased, etc.

Justice of the Peace Dockets, 1838–date, c. 15 v.

Reports of School Trustees, 1847–1869.

County Clerk—Probate

PROBATE COURT RECORDS

Probate Justice of the Peace Record, 1837–1844, 1 v. (A)

Probate Court Record, 1847–date, 31 v.

The series contains petitions for probate of wills, inventories, appraisements, adjustment of claims, petitions for sale of property, reports, etc.

Probate Files, 1843–date: Estates, 314 f.b.; Guardianships, 136 f.b.

Conservatorship Files, 1903–date, 10 f.b.

Index to Probate, Common Law, and Miscellaneous Files, 1 v.

DOCKETS AND FEE BOOKS

Probate Docket, 1874–date, 16 v. (A–P)

Docket of Settlement due from Estates, 1893–1896, 1 v.

Docket of Settlement due from Guardians, 1860–1885, 1 v.; 1890–date, 1 v.

Probate Fee Book, 1862–date, 10 v. (1–10)

RECORDS OF WILLS, BONDS, AND LETTERS

Record of Wills, 1824–date, 12 v. (A, 1–2, B–J)

Testamentary Trusteeship Record, 1910–date, 1 v. (1)

Petitions for letters of trusteeship, names of trustees, bonds, and testamentary letters are recorded.

Administrators' Bonds and Letters, 1824–1834, 1 v.; 1837–1848, 1 v.; 1849–1862, 2 v.; 1861–1869, 1 v.; 1869–date, 7 v. (A–G)

Record of Bonds of Administration, 1835–1841, 3 v.; 1846–1861, 2 v.

Administrators' Record, 1862–date, 8 v. (A–H)

Record of Executors' Bonds, 1864–date, 3 v.

Executors' Record, 1863–date, 5 v. (A–E)

The record includes petition, oath, bond, letters testamentary, and warrant to appraisers.

Conservators' Record, 1892–date, 2 v. (C–D)

Record of Bonds and Letters of Guardianship, 1837–1857, 4 v.

Guardianship Record, 1863–date, 7 v. (A, B, B–F)

Petitions for appointment, bonds, letters of guardianship, etc. are recorded.

Record of Guardians' Bonds, 1827–date, 11 v.

Miscellaneous Record (administrators de bonis non, with will annexed), 1884–date, 3 v.; 1896–date 1 v., containing bonds de bonis non, will annexed, and sale of real estate.

Record of Bond of Administrator with Will Annexed, 1908–date, 1 v. (C)

Record of Administrators' Bond de bonis non with will annexed, 1911, 1 v. (C)

INVENTORIES, APPRAISEMENTS, SALE BILLS, ETC.

Inventory, Appraisement, and Sale Bill Record, 1826–1880, 10 v. (A–J)

Inventory Record, 1880–date, 7 v. (K–Q)

Appraisement Record, 1880–date, 7 v. (K–Q)
Sale Record: Public, 1879–date, 3 v. (A–C); Private, 1879–date, 3 v. (A–C)
Conservators' Inventory and Report Record, 1895–date, 2 v. (A–B)

REPORT RECORDS

Order Book of Executors and Administrators, 1827–1870, 7 v. (A–G)
Administrators' and Executors' Account, 1870–1877, 2 v. (H–I)
Administrators' Account Record, 1880–date, 7 v. (K–Q)
Executors' Account, 1880–date, 7 v. (K–Q)
Guardians' Account Current and Court Order Book, 1833–1870, 4 v. (A–D)
Accounts Current in Settlement of Estates, 1850–1874, 2 v. (1–2)
Estate Ledger, 1838–1839, 1873–1878, 2 v.
The volume for 1838–1839 is in attic.
Insolvent Estate Record, 1876–1907, 1 v. (A)

Clerk of the Circuit Court

CIRCUIT COURT RECORDS

Circuit Court Record, 1828–date, 26 v. (A–Z)
Circuit Court Record: Chancery, 1831–date, 36 v. (A–Z, 1–10); Criminal, 1871–date, 7 v. (1–7)
Circuit Court Files: Common Law, 1828–date, 566 f.b.; Criminal, 1837–date, 113 f.b.; Chancery, 1829–date, 159 f.b.
General Index to Court Record, 1857–date, 3 v. each for plaintiff and defendant.
Naturalization Record: Declaration of Intention, 1865–1898, 1 v.; Final Certificate, 1865–1894, 1 v.; Soldiers and Minors, 1865, 1 v.
Naturalization Papers, 1856–1870, 2 f.b.

DOCKETS, FEE BOOKS, ETC.

General Docket of Cases in Suit, 1883–date, 4 v. (A–D)
Judges' Dockets, 1835, 1 v.; 1838–date.
Clerks' Docket, 1838–1859, 10 v.
Chancery Docket, 1843–1845, 1 v.
Judgment Docket, 1829–date, 9 v. (A–I)

Execution Docket, 1829–date, 9 v. (A–I)
Executions, 1830–date, 138 f.b.
Fee Book, 1828–date, 31 v. (1–31)
Justice of the Peace Transcript Record, 1841–date, 5 v. (A–E)
Register of Jurors, 1872–1884, 2 v. (1–2)
Indictment Record, 1891–date, 1 v. (A)
Certificates of Levy, Sale, and Redemption, 1873–1899, 6 f.b.
Coroners' Inquest Files, 1870–1899, 4 f.b.

Circuit Clerk—Recorder

DEED AND MORTGAGE RECORDS

Entry Book, 1823–1834[?], 1847–date, 18 v.
The earlier volumes are not numbered; those numbered are v. 1–11.
Deed Record, 1824–date, 139 v. (A–I, K–Z, AA–II, KK–ZZ, 1–89)
Letters J and JJ are omitted.
Mortgage Record, 1830–date, 78 v. (A–I, K–Z, AA–II, KK–ZZ, 1–28)
Oil and Gas Lease Record, 1911–date, 1 v.
General Index to Deeds, 1824–date, 20 v. each for grantor and grantee.
Chattel Mortgage Entry Book, 1900–1907, 1 v.
Chattel Mortgage Record, 1865–date, 39 v. (1–39)

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Sheriffs' and Masters' Certificate of Levy, Sale, and Redemption Record, 1841–date, 4 v.
Surveyors' Record, 1879–date, 2 v. (A–B)
Transcripts of Judgments for Execution to Sell Land, 1873–date, 10 f.b.
Township Treasurers' Bond Record, 1889–date, 1 v. (A)
Record of Soldiers' Discharges, 1863–1899, 1 v.
Census of Pensioners for Revolutionary or [other (?)] Military Services, 1840, 1 v.
Stallion Register, 1910–date, 1 v.; Renewals, 1 v.
Miscellaneous Record, 1869–1909, 6 v. (A–F)
Sheriffs' Execution Dockets, 1887–1902.
Register of Sheriffs' Fees, 1890, 1 v.

MOULTRIE COUNTY[1]

Moultrie county was set off from Shelby and Macon in 1843; the county seat is Sullivan. The present courthouse is located in a public square. It was built in 1906 and is fireproof. The two vaults are especially well designed for safety against fire. Each is built up three stories from the basement. The third story on the second floor of the courthouse is used for current records. The second story, connected with the third by an interior stairway with an iron cover, is used for older records and files. The first story in the basement has no connection with the other two and is reached by a door. In the series belonging to the county clerk, this story is used for old assessors' and collectors' books. The top story in each vault is equipped with modern filing material. The papers in the second story of the county clerk's vault are in pasteboard filingboxes, and the tax records in the third are on wooden shelves.

In both offices the records are in good shape but the county clerk's care for his older records and papers calls for especial comment. The older files are very carefully arranged, bundled, numbered and labeled, and the tax records in the lower vault are carefully arranged in order. The courthouse was burned in 1864. The fire did some damage to the earlier records but did not wipe them out.

County Clerk

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' AND SUPERVISORS' RECORDS

County Commissioners' Record, 1843–1873, 2 v.; 1859–1873, 1 extra v.

Supervisors' Record, 1867–date, 4 v.

Index to Supervisors' Record, 1867–1869, 1 v.

Supervisors' Minutes and Papers (petitions, special meetings), 1907–date, 1 f.b.

Certificates of Election of Supervisors, 1884–1890, in 2d vault; 1907–date, 1 f.b.

Supervisors' Papers, 1866–1885, 41 f.b., in 2d vault; 1885–date, in 2d vault.

The second series is arranged by meetings, in packages clearly marked.

[1] Examined February, 1914.

Road Petitions, 1866, 1 f.b, in 2d vault.
Report of Commissioners on Township Organization, etc., 1867, 1 v.
Record of County Orders, 1869–1907, 3 v.
Jury List, 1872–date, 1 v.

COUNTY COURT RECORDS

County Court Record, 1872–date, 3 v.
Record of Judgment by Default, 1872–1874, 1 v., printed form; 1878–1895, 1 v.; 1896–date, 1 v.
Judgment on Confession in Vacation Record, 1911–date, 1 v.
County Court Files, 1872–date, 81 f.b. (68 of these in L.V.)
Index to Court Records, 1 v. each for plaintiff and defendant.
Papers of the Moultrie, Coles and Douglas Drainage District, 1900–1906, 1 f.b.
Assignments of Estates, 1879–1897, 4 f.b.
Adoption Papers, recent dates, 1 f.b.
Insanity Record, 1872–date, 2 v.; see also *post*, 490.
Insanity Files, 1880–date, 6 f.b.
Naturalization Record, 1867–1906, 1 v.; 1906, 1 v.
Naturalization Papers, 1862–1905, 1 f.b.

DOCKETS, FEE BOOKS, ETC.

General Docket, 1884–1902, 1 v.; 1903–date, 1 v.

The headings are: date case was entered, general and term numbers, name of attorney, parties, appealing party, appealed from, action, process, and remarks.

Judges' Docket, 1872–1890, 1 v.; 1891–1897, 1 v.; 1898–date, 2 v.

The first two volumes contain both common law and criminal; after 1898 there is a separate volume for each of these.

Bar Docket, 1891–1899, 1 v.
Clerks' Docket, 1872–1909, 5 v., first 4 v. in basement vault.
Judgment Docket, 1874–1885, 1 v.
Execution Docket, 1873–1886, 1 v.
Judgment and Execution Docket, 1885–1900, 1 v.; current, 1 v.
Executions, 1873–1898, 2 f.b.
Assignees' Docket, 1872–1884, 1 v.
Insanity Docket, 1893–date, 1 v.

Number of case, names of person and applicant, witnesses, jurors or physicians, and orders of court are given.

Fee Book: Criminal, 1872–1896, 2 v.; Common Law, 1872–1911, 2 v.; Common Law and Criminal, 1899–date, 2 v.; Fee Book "in vacation," 1897–1899, 1 v.; Insane and Conservators' Fee Book, 1894–date, 1 v.

Register of Jurors, 1878–date, 1 v.

TAXATION RECORDS

Assessment and Statement of Taxes, 1880–1895, 1 f.b., in 2d vault.

Tabular Statement of Total Footings of Assessment Books, 1873–1906, 4 v.

Docket of Certificates of Rates and Taxes Wanted, 1878–date, 1 v.

Transcript of Lands entered in Moultrie County and Reported by Auditor, 1830–1872, 1 v.

Township School Plats, 1867, 1 v., in basement; 1868, 1 v.; 1879–1906, 1 v.

School Tax Levies, 1868–1893.

These files contain certificates of amounts wanted with names of tax payers and amount due from each; in 2d vault.

Tax Levies, 1899–date, in office.

Miscellaneous Road Tax Lists, 1870–1901, 20 f.b., in 2d vault.

Contents: name of owner, description of land, total value, amount of road tax, number of days of work per person, amount of personal assessment and road tax assessment, and amount paid; made out by highway commissioners.

Assessments, Railroad Property, 1873–1875, 1 v., in 2d vault; Papers, 1873–1875, in 2d vault.

Railroad Statements for Taxation, 1864–1905, 5 f.b., in 2d vault.

Assessors' Books (for the whole county), 1859, 1861, 1863, 1865, 1 v. each, in basement vault.

Details of personal property and value, and description and value of lands are given.

Assessors' Books, 1867–1903, in basement vault.

For lands the headings are: in whose name entered, owners' name, description, value, school and road district, amount of tax; personal property is listed in detail; later forms specify different kinds of land and personal property and give series of equalizations.

Collectors' Books, 1853, 1857, 1858, 1859, 1860, 1863, 1864, 1865, 1866, 1 v. each, in basement vault.

The books give merely description, state, county, school, and road taxes.

Collectors' Books, by townships, 1867–1880; 1882–1900, 1 v. for each year.

The contents include name, description, number of acres, value, equalized value by county and state board, state, county, and town taxes, school tax, road tax, miscellaneous taxes, back tax, total, number of school and road district, remarks and when paid. The same items are given for personal property except that there is no description. Later forms add amount paid, for whom, tax sale, special assessments, amount due. All the volumes are in basement vault.

Collectors' Books, 1901–date.

Collectors' Receipts for Tax Books, files in 2d vault.

There are a few as early as 1843.

Railroad Record, 1872–1874, 1 v.; 1875–1880, 1 v.; 1881, 1 v.; 1882–1895, 1 v.; 1896–date, 1 v.

Delinquent Lists (lands), 1905–1908, 1 f.b.

Delinquent Lists for Road Tax, 1907–1910, 2 f.b.

Publications of Delinquent Tax Lists, 1868–1900, 3 f.b., in 2nd vault.

These files contain newspaper lists with printers' certificates attached.

Transcript of Delinquent Taxes, 1849–1859, 1 v.; 1872–1874, 1 v.; 1875–1876, 1 v.

The later volumes give description of property, value, equalized value, school and road districts, state, county, town, school and road taxes, etc., back tax, total tax, by whom paid.

Objections to Tax Judgments, 1881–1900, 1 f.b., in 2nd vault; 1906–1908, 1 f.b.

Tax Judgment Record, 1861–1880, 4 v., in 2d vault.

Tax Sale Record, 1861–1879, 1 v.; 1868–1875, 1 v., both 2d vault.

Tax Sale and Redemption Record, 1873–1880, 2 v., in 2d vault.

Record of Forfeitures for Nonpayment of Taxes, 1874–1880, 2 v.

Tax Judgment, Sale, Redemption, and Forfeiture Record, 1881–date, 6 v.

Index to Tax Sales: Lots, c. 1860–1880; Lands, c. 1860–1880, 1 v.

Certificates of Purchase and Affidavits for Tax Deeds, 1855–1888, in 2d vault; Record of, 1869–1910, 3 v.

Certificates of Purchase, 1900–1906, in office files.

Back Tax Record, 1869–1878, 1 v.

The owner's name, description of property, taxes for each of the years 1869–1878, interest, total amount, etc. are given.

County Collectors' and Treasurers' Accounts with County, 1900–date, 1 v.

Collectors' Accounts, County Funds, 1873–1897, 2 v.

Collectors' Credits in Account with Auditor, 1858–1884; also statements of assessments of personal property to auditor, of later dates, in 2d vault.

County Clerks' Record of Inheritance Tax Receipts, current, 1 v.

RECORDS OF VITAL STATISTICS

Register of Marriages, 1843–1854, 1 v.; 1854–1911, 1 v.; 1845–date 1 v.; 1878–date, 2 v.; Index, 3 v.

The volume 1845–date includes license and date of return. The series for 1854–1911, gives names of parties, date of marriage, and by whom certified. In the 1878–date series the board of health form is used.

Marriage Licenses, 1864–1907, in 2d vault.

Marriage Affidavits and Applications, 1891–1897, in 2d vault.

Marriage Returns, 1880–1885, 1890–1893, in 2d vault.

Record of Applications for Marriage License, 1889–1897, 1 v. in 2d vault; 1901–1909, 4 v., in 2d vault; current, 2 v.

Register of Births, 1877–1910, 3 v.; current, 1 v.

Register of Deaths, 1877–1912, 3 v.

Birth Reports, 1877–1912, 8 f.b., in 2d vault.

Still Birth Reports, 1879–1888.

Death Reports, 1877–1912, in 2d vault.

Index to Registers: Births, 1 v.; Deaths, 1 v.

Record of Physicians' Certificates, 1877–date, 2 v.

Register of Certificates of Physicians and Accoucheurs, 1877–1910, 1 v.

Return of Agricultural Statistics to Auditor, 1878, 1 v.; 1882, 1 v.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Abstracts of Election Returns, 1870–1897; a few poll books, 1870–1897, both in 2d vault.

Record of Ballots Issued, 1902, 1 v.

Assessors' Bond Record, 1899–date, 1 v.

Bond Record, Justice of the Peace, and Constable, 1877–date, 1 v. (A)

Official Bonds, 1858, 1856–1870, 1868–1904; Supervisors' Bonds for dog license, 1881–1891, Town Collectors' Bonds, 1875–1901, all in 2d vault.

Register of County Officers, 1861–1883, 1 v.; 1875–date, 1 v.

This is an alphabetical register giving name, office, when elected or appointed, bond, date and amount, securities, sworn in, date of commission, expiration of term and remarks.

Register of Town Officers Elected, 1883–1898, 1 v.; 1899–date, 1 v.

Estray Record, 1858–1865, 1 v.; 1865–1869, 1 v.; 1875–date, 1 v.

The volume for 1858–1865 is in basement.

Record of Ear Marks, 1845–1872, 1 v., in basement.

Record of Swamp Lands, 1858, *et seq.*, 1 v.

This is a record of sales.

Record of Stallion Certificates, 1902–1909, 1 v.

Mothers' Pension Order Book, 1 v. current

Apprentice Indentures, 1859–1865, in 2d vault.

Township Treasurers in Account with School Districts, 1903–1911, 1 v.; 1909–1912, 1 v.

Township School Treasurers' Cash Books and Loans, 1889–1898, 1 v.; 1904–1907, 1 v.

Treasurers' Reports, 1852–1867, 1 f.b.; 1873–1908, 29 f.b., in 2d vault.

Semiannual Reports of Fees, by Sheriffs, County and Circuit Clerks, 1873–1880, in 2d vault.

Magistrates' Reports of Fines and Penalties, 1908–date, 1 f.b.

States Attorneys' Reports of Fines, 1891–1892.

Hunters' Licenses, 1905–1906, 1 f.b.

English Sparrow Bounty Certificates, 1891–1900, 5 f.b., in 2d vault.

County Clerk in Account with Physicians and Town Officers, Births and Deaths, 1 v.

County Clerk Record of Fees Earned, 1874–1881, 1 v., in basement.

County Clerk Register of Fees, 1874–date, 2 v.

County Clerks' Cash Book, 1882–1892, 1 v.; 1892–1905, 1 v.

Clerks' Ledger [?], 1882–1884, 1 v.

Receipts to County Clerk for Session Laws, 1875–1877, 1 v.
Abstract to Land, and Index, 1 v., in 2d vault.
Justice of the Peace Dockets.

There is one volume for 1857–1858 in basement.

Circuit Court Docket, 1850–1873, 1 v. (5)

County Clerk—Probate

PROBATE COURT RECORDS

Probate Court Record, 1845–1849, 1 v. (1); 1849–date, 9 v. (A–H, 2 v. B)
Probate Judgment Record, 1867–1895, 1 v.
Estate Files (filed by letter), c. 1850–date, 66 f.b.
Guardians' Files, c. 1865–date, 40 f.b.

DOCKETS AND FEE BOOKS

Probate Court Docket, 1859–1864, 1 v.

Contents: number of case, name of deceased and administrator, date of letters, names of sureties, widow and heirs, when inventory and sale bill were filed, amounts, and remarks.

History of Guardianships, 1905–date, 1 v.
Estate Docket, 1870–1872, 1 v.

The form is the same as that of the probate estate claim and judgment docket except that it contains no claim docket.

History of Estates, 1889–1901, 1 v.

This is a briefer and more compact form than the probate estate claim and judgment docket.

Estate History Account Current, 1899–1907, 1 v.

The headings are administrator, sureties, heirs, inventory, appraisement, widows' relinquishment and selection, sale of personal property, sale of real estate, reference to book and page; list of claims—with reference to judgment docket; space for four settlements (two-page printed form).

Probate Estate Claim and Judgment Docket, 1907–date, 1 v.

This is a two-page form. One page contains date, record of death, will and administrator, names of widow and heirs, bonds, bondsmen, date and record of inventory, appraisement, and sale bill, petition for sale of real estate, account current; on the other page there is a probate claim and judgment docket, the headings being date, name of claimant, date filed, amount, summons issued, returnable, date of judgment, class, record, amount.

Guardians' Docket, 1860–1899, 1 v.

The contents give name of deceased and guardian, date of letters, amount of bond and names of sureties, names and ages of heirs, record of filing accounts, and remarks.

Probate Judges' Docket, 1881–date, 5 v.

The contents list estate, guardian or executor, proceedings, last order, attorneys, and order of court. The second and fourth volumes are in the second vault.

Probate Judgment Docket, 1859–date, 5 v.

The headings are number of claim, when filed, name of claimant and estate, nature, amount, summons and notice, order of court.

Probate Docket "E," 1908–date, 1 v.

Probate Fee Book, 1861–1868, 1 v.; 1878–1882, 1 v.; 1867–1893, 1 v.; 1872–1878, 1 v.; 1878–1905, 1 v.; 1892–1909, 1 v.; 1901–1908, 1 v.; 1909–date, 2 v.

The first two volumes listed are in the 2d vault.

Guardians', Conservators' and Miscellaneous Fee Book, 1911–date, 1 v.

RECORDS OF WILLS, BONDS, AND LETTERS

Will Record, 1904–date, 1 v. (E)

This is a record of probate of will.

Docket of Probate Bonds, 1881–1903, 1 v.

The contents include estate, administrator, executor or guardian, amount and date of bond, sureties, and order of court.

Affidavits of Posting Notice for Creditors to Appear, 1866–1910, 1 v.

This is a half-page printed form.

Administrators' Record, 1864–date, 4 v.

This is a two-page printed form giving court record, bond and letters.

Executors' Record, 1866–1903, 4 v.; 1911–date, 1 v.

The first four volumes contain the record of the will and its probate; the last volume omits the will.

Record of Executors' and Guardians' Bonds and Letters, 1853–1866, 1 v.

Conservators' Record, 1894–1905, 1 v.

The record contains trial of the insane, appointment of conservator, bonds and letters. There are two forms, for trials by jury or commission.

Conservators' Record, 1883–1898, 1 v.; 1903–date, 1 v.

The volumes contain court record, and conservators' bonds and letters.

Guardians' Record, 1864–date, 4 v.
Appointment of guardians, bonds and letters are recorded.

Record of Bonds of Administrators de Bonis Non, 1851–1864, 1 v.

Record of Miscellaneous Bonds and Letters, 1872–date, 3 overlapping v.

INVENTORIES, APPRAISEMENTS, AND SALE BILLS

Inventory Record, 1866–1909, 4 v.

Record of Inventory of Copartnership Property, 1873–date, 1 v.
The volume includes a two-page and a four-page printed form.

Guardians' and Conservators' Inventory Record, 1873–date, 1 v.

Appraisement Record, 1866–date, 5 v.
Contents: warrant to appraisers, oath of appraisers, widow's award, appraisement bill and oath of appraisers to it.

Public Sale Bill Record, 1862–1872, 1 v.; 1873–date, 2 v.
The form includes sale bill, oath to it, and copy of notice of sale.

Private Sale Record, 1906–date, 1 v.
The contents include petitions and court orders, bills of sale and oaths to them.

REPORT RECORDS, ETC.

Guardians' Ledger, 1868–1880, 1 v.
This is a two-page form.

Probate Ledger, 1850–1869, 1 v.

Estate Ledger, 1879–1880, 1 v.; 1867–1888, 1 v.
Claims according to class, and disbursements are recorded.

Report Record, 1872–date, 3 v.
This is a one-page printed form for account and oath. The first two volumes contain all reports; the last all reports but guardians'.

Guardians' Report Record, 1885–date, 3 v.
The contents include receipts, expenditures, recapitulation and oath. There is a one and a two-page printed form.

Probate Estate Record and Account Current, 1873–1887, 1 v.
The contents record: particulars of estate and bond; date of filing of bond; place of record of inventories; remarks; claims allowed; and on the second page debits and credits.

Administrators' Final Report Record, 1899–date, 2 v.
This is a two-page printed form.

Widows' Relinquishment and Selection Record, 1872–date, 2 v.

Record of Proceedings on Petition to Sell Real Estate, 1868–date, 3 v.

Clerk of the Circuit Court

CIRCUIT COURT RECORDS

Circuit Court Record, 1849–1859, 2 v.

Circuit Court Record: Common Law, 1865–date, 9 v. (1–9); Criminal, 1874–1889, 2 v., in 2d vault; 1889–date, 3 v.

Recognizance Record, Open Court, 1902–date, 1 v.

Default Record, 1859–1863, 1 v., in 2d vault; 1897–date, 1 v., in 2d vault.

Record of Confession in Vacation, 1907–date, 1 v.

Default and Confession Record, 1874–1884, 1 v., in 2d vault.

Record of Judgment by Confession (term time and vacation), 1877–date, 5 v.

Chancery Record, 1865–date, 12 v.

The records have been typed since 1898.

Probation Record, 1912, 1 v.

There are only one or two entries.

Record of Certificates of Discharge under Parole, 1898, 1 v.

Circuit Court Files: Chancery, c. 1865–date, 178 f.b ; Common Law, 1865–date, 169 f.b.; Criminal, 30 f.b.; Confessions in Vacation, 1875–date, 6 f.b.

Index to Common Law and Chancery Files, 1 v. each.

Index to Court Record, 1858–1869, 1 v., in 2d vault.

Index to Court Record, full form, 1858–1870, Plaintiff, 1 v.

Index to Court Record, full form, 1913–date, 1 v. each for plaintiff and defendant.

DOCKETS AND FEE BOOKS

General Docket: 1874–date, 3 v.; first 2 v. in 2d vault.

Judges' Docket: Common Law, Chancery, and Criminal, 1865–1867, 1 v.; 1871–1897, 4 v.; Common Law, 1878–1904, 3 v.; Criminal, 1898–1904, 1 v.; Chancery, 1878–1904, 3 v.; Common Law, Chancery, and Criminal, 1905–date, 2 v.; Common Law and Chancery, 1913–date, 1 v. (10); Criminal, 1913–date, 1 v. (11)

Clerks' Dockets: Common Law, Chancery, and Criminal, 1888–1907, c. 20 v., mostly in 2d vault.

Common Law Docket, 1895–1898, 1 v.

The contents include number of case, attorney, parties, action, last order, date, and order of court.

Chancery Docket, 1895–1899, 1 v.

Clerks' Docket (loose leaf), 1908–date, 2 v.

Bar Dockets, 1865–1867, 1 v.; 1868–1871, 1 v.; 1874–1875, 1875–1876, 1878–1885, 1 v. for each, in 2d vault.

Judgment Docket, 1865–1886, 1 v.

Execution Docket, 1865–1878, 1 v. in 2d vault.

Judgment and Execution Docket, 1874–date, 8 v.

Executions, 1865–date, 9 f.b.

Lien and Satisfaction Docket (mechanics' lien docket), 1888–date, 1 v.

Number, name, filer, description and satisfaction of lien are recorded.

Mechanics' Liens, 1888–date, 1 f.b.

Trustees' Docket (current), 1 v.

Appointment and discharge of trustees in various cases are recorded. One page is devoted to each case.

Fee Book: Common Law and Criminal, 1865–1891, 8 v., in 2d vault; Chancery 1882–1894, 1 v., in 2d vault; Common Law, Chancery, and Criminal, 1891–date, 11 v.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Justice of the Peace Transcript Record, 1865–1877, 1 v.; 1874–1890, 1 v., in 2d vault.

Transcript of Judgment Record, 1891–1912, 1 v.; 1908–date, 1 v.

Justice of the Peace Transcripts, 1867–date, 3 f.b.

Appeal, Replevin, and Attachment Bonds, 1876–1900, 1 f.b.

Recognizances, 1877–1901, 1 f.b.

Files of Trustees' Reports and Bonds, 1888–date.

Attorneys' Receipts for Papers, 1887–1901, 2 v., in 2d vault.

Jury Venires, 1877–date.

Files of Miscellaneous Bonds, 1858–date.

Coroners' Inquests, 1897–date, 2 f.b.

Masters' Reports, 1888–date, 1 f.b.

Indictment Record, 1875–1876, 1 v., in 2d vault.

Cash Book, 1907–date, 1 v.

Register of Jurors' Certificates, 1866–date, 1 v.
Record of States Attorneys' Reports of Fines, 1873–date, 1 v.
States Attorneys' Reports, 1876–date.
Circuit Clerks' Fee Record, 1873–1890, 2 v.; 1891–1897, 1 v. in 2d vault.

Circuit Clerk—Recorder

DEED AND MORTGAGE RECORDS

Deed Entry Book, 1865–1907, 7 v. (A–G)
Volume H is a chattel entry, v. I a mortgage, and v. K and L deeds.
Deed Record, 1849–1866, 7 v.
Deed Record, 1864–date, 69 v. (7 lettered v., 1–61, 68)
Six volumes are said to be missing.
Record of Deeds, Transcribed from Shelby County, 1831–1844, 2 v.
Mortgage Record, 1865–1860, 1 v.
Mortgage Record, 1864–date, 63 v. (1–63, and nos. 68 and 74)
Chattel mortgages are included. Volumes 9, 14, 15, 20, 22, 28, 31, 33, 35, 36, 40, 41 of chattels are in 2d vault
City and Village Record of Plats, 1875–date, 1 v.
Deed Index, 1848–date, 7 v. each for grantor and grantee.
Mortgage Index, 1855–date, 4 v. each for mortgagor and mortgagee.
Index to Marginal Releases, 1905–date, 1 v.
Chattel Mortgage Entry Book, 1882–1900, 1 v.
Chattel Mortgage Extension Record, 1912–date, 1 v.
Chattel Mortgage Index, 1878–1905, 2 v.; 1904–date, 1 v.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Record of Sheriffs' Certificates of Levy, Sale, and Redemption, 1866–1876, 1 v.; 1877–date, 2 v.
Record of Masters' Certificates of Levy, Sale, and Redemption. 1867–date, 1 v.; Papers, 1869–date, 4 f.b.
Record of Soldiers' Discharges, 1865–1907, 1 v.
Record of Surveys, 1870–date, 2 v.
Record of United States Surveys, 1850, 1 v.
Miscellaneous Record, 1881–date, 4 v.
Town Collectors' Bond Record, 1884–date, 1 v.
Collectors' Bond Record, 1867–1883, 1 v.
Stallion Register, 1910–date, 2 v.

OGLE COUNTY[1]

Ogle county was organized in 1836 from territory set off from Jo Daviess and La Salle, and in 1839 was enlarged at the expense of the former county; the county seat is Oregon. The courthouse is equipped with electric light and steam heat and is fireproof. There are no vaults.

County Clerk

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' AND SUPERVISORS' RECORDS

County Commissioners' Court Record, January, 1837–December, 1845, 1 v.

This volume contains 329 p., and is labeled "Commissioners' Records A." On last page of index is an index to roads in Ogle county.

County Commissioners' Court Record, January, 1846–November, 1847, 1 v.

In the back of this volume is a record of swamp lands sold, 1852–1855, 19 p.

Supervisors' Record, 1850–date, 9 v. (A–I)

County Commissioners' and Supervisors' Papers, 1837–1890, 61 f.b., in basement; 1891–date, 28 f.b.

Register of County Orders, 1858–date, 5 v. (A–E)

COUNTY COURT RECORDS

County Court Record (common law and criminal), 1872–date, 3 v.

There is an index in each volume.

County Court Files, 1872–date: Common Law (nos. 1–306), 7 f.b.; Criminal (nos. 1–200), 6 f.b.

For index to files, see probate files.

Voluntary Assignment Record, 1874–1896, 2 v.

Insanity Record, 1872–date, 6 v.

Naturalization Record, 1872–1904, 8 v.

Naturalization Papers, 1872–1904, 7 f.b.

[1] Examined January, 1912.

County Judges' Docket (common law and criminal), 1872–date, 3 v. (1–3)
Judgment Docket, 1873–date, 1 v. (1)
Execution Docket, 1873–date, 1 v. (1)
Insanity Docket, 1893–date, 1 v. (1)
Docket of Official Bonds, 1860–date, 4 v.
County Court Fee Book (common law and criminal), 1873–date, 3 v.

TAXATION RECORDS

Abstract of Assessments and Taxes, 1870–1893, 1 v.
School District Plat Book, n.d., 1 v. (A)
School Plats, 1862–date, 3 v.
Plats and description of boundaries are included.
Land Entry Book, c. 1840–1855, 1 v.
This is copied from the records in the auditor's office.
Docket of Rates and Amounts Wanted, 1876–date, 3 v. (A–C)
Railroad Schedules of Values, 1873–date, 7 f.b.
List of Unpaid Real Estate Mortgages, 1879–date, 2 v. (1–2)
Assessors' Books and Collectors' Books, 1847–date.
Railroad Tax Books: Chicago and Iowa railroad, 1873–date, 3 v.; Chicago and Pacific, 1876–1879; Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul, 1880–date, 2 v.; Chicago and Northwestern, 1871–date, 4 v. (1–4); Illinois, Iowa, and Minnesota, 1906–date, 1 v. (1); Chicago and Great Western, 1887–date, 1 v.; Chicago, Burlington and Northern, 1887–date, 1 v.
Telegraph Tax Book, 1885–date, 4 v. (1–4)
Record of Proceedings of Board of Review, 1899–date, 1 v.
Board of Review Docket, 1899–date, 1 v.
Delinquent Tax Lists, 1855–1901, 20 f.b., in basement.
Delinquent Tax Lists, 1881–1884, 3 large v.
Tax Judgment Record, 1849–1879, 7 v. (1, A–F)
Tax Sale Record, 1858–1879, 4 v. (A–D)
Tax Judgment, Sale, Redemption, and Forfeiture Record, 1880–date, 9 v.
Record of Forfeitures, 1879, 1 v.
Certificates of Tax Sales, 1849–date, 10 f.b.
Record of Affidavits for Tax Deeds, 1874–1878, 1 v. (A)
Inheritance Tax Record, 1895–date, 2 v.

Treasurers' Accounts with County, 1872–date, 1 v.
Collectors' Accounts with County, 1875–date, 1 v.

RECORDS OF VITAL STATISTICS

"Marriage Licenses–Book A," 1837–1844, 1 v.
The volume is 6 x 8 inches and is bound in cardboard, 114 p., not indexed.

Marriage Licenses, 1845–1852, 1 v. (B)
10 x 15 inches, 116 p., unindexed. Names of parties and date of license, with certificate of return of the license by the person performing ceremony are recorded.

Marriage Register, 1852–1877, 3 v. (C–E)
Contents: number of license, date, names, date of marriage, by whom, when registered.

Register of Marriages, December, 1877–date, 3 v. (1–3)
The board of health form is used.

Index to Marriages (by male and female), 1837–1877, 1 v. (A); 1877–date, 1 v. (B)
Record of Applications for Marriage License, 1876–date.
Marriage Licenses, 1837–1875, 56 f.b., in basement; 1876–date, 12 f.b.
Register of Births, 1878–date, 4 v. (1–4); Index, 2 v. (A–B)
Register of Deaths, 1878–date, 4 v. (1–4); Index, 1 v. (A)
Birth Reports, 1877–date, 6 f.b.
Death Reports, 1878–date, 5 f.b.
Record of Certificates of Physicians and Midwives, 1877–date, 2 v.
Register of Physicians and Accoucheurs, 1877–date, 1 v.
Register of Dentists, 1877–date, 1 v.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Election Records, 1837–1891, 56 f.b., in basement; 1892–date, 28 f.b., in office.
Poll books, tally sheets, and abstracts of votes are included.

Assessors' Bond Record, 1899–date, 1 v. (A)
Militia Roll Record, 1861–1862, 1 v. (A)
Volunteer Bounty Orders, 1862–1875, 2 v.
The entries are: to whom issued; date of order; amount; and amount of interest.

Record of Estrays, 1858–date, 1 v. (B)

Miscellaneous Record, 1867–date, 2 v. (A–B)

The contents are affidavits for tax deeds, bonds, reports of county officers; architects' and veterinary surgeons' licenses, etc.

Register of Receipts and Expenditures, 1874–date, 3 v.

County Clerk—Probate

PROBATE COURT RECORDS

"Probate Order Book 1843–1849," 1 v.

The volume contains court orders, appraisement bills, reports, record of fees, records of claims filed, etc.

Probate Record, December, 1849–date, 43 v.

Record of claims filed, reports, settlements, petitions to sell real estate, letters of guardianship, widows' awards, proof of wills, etc. are recorded in this series.

Miscellaneous Probate Record, 1870–date, 8 v. (A–H)

The contents are miscellaneous reports, petitions, bonds, etc.

Probate Files, 1837–date, 325 f.b.

Estate papers, guardianship papers, adoption papers, insanity papers, etc. are filed in the same boxes and in the order and by the general number with which they are entered on docket.

Index to Files, 1 v.

This is an index to all files in office—probate, common law, and criminal. It gives name of party, kind of file, number of file and box, reference to book and page of probate index.

DOCKETS AND FEE BOOKS

Probate Judges' Docket, 1866–date, 42 v. (A–42)

Probate Estate Docket, 1862–1874, 1 v. (A)

Probate Index, 1837–date, 9 v. (A–I)

An estate docket.

Probate Judgment Docket, 1859–date, 11 v. (A–K)

Index to Probate Judgment Docket (direct and indirect), 2 v. (A–B)

Docket of Official Bonds, 1858–date, 4 v.

Probate Fee Book, 1858–date, 10 v. (A–J)

Probate Fee Book (claims), 1870–date, 2 v. (A–B)

RECORDS OF WILLS, BONDS, AND LETTERS

"Wills, Bonds, Letters, etc., Book A," 1838–1845, 1 v.

Record of Wills, 1846–1852, 1 v.

The volume is labeled "Wills, Record no. 6."

"Record of Wills, Letters of Guardianship, Testamentary and of Administration," 1852–1871, 1 v. (B)

Will Record, 1866–date, 6 v. (C–H)

Affidavits for Posting Notices, 1866–date, 3 v. (A–C)

These are affidavits of notice to creditors to file claims against estate.

"Letters Testamentary and of Administration," 1847–1852, 1 v.

"Letters Testamentary, of Administration, and of Guardianship," April, 1841–February, 1848, 1 v.

This contains letters indicated by the title as well as records of claims allowed, reports of administrators, copies of wills, appraisement bills, etc.

Record of Bonds, 1847–1852, 1 v. ("No. 4"); 1852–1860, 1 v. (C)

Administrators', executors', and guardians' bonds are recorded.

Administrators' Record, 1858–date, 6 v. (A–F)

Executors' Record, 1858–date, 4 v. (A–D)

Conservators' Record, 1903–date, 1 v. (D)

Guardians' Record, 1858–1879, 2 v. (A–B)

Record of Miscellaneous Bonds and Letters, 1872–1905, 1 v. (1)

Bonds and letters of administrators de bonis non, will annexed, etc

INVENTORIES, APPRAISEMENTS, AND SALE BILLS

"Inventory, Appraisement & Sale Bill Record," 1849, 1 v.

Sales and Appraisement Bills, 1852–1859, 1 v. (D)

Inventory Record, July, 1859–date, 12 v. (A–L)

Appraisement Record, 1858–date, 11 v. (A–K)

Sale Record, 1859–date, 4 v. (A–D)

Record of Private Sales (personal property), 1877–date, 3 v. (A–C)

REPORT RECORDS, ETC.

Report Record, 1872–1898, 6 v. (A–6)

Reports of administrators, executors, guardians, etc. are recorded.

Administrators' Report Record, 1898–date, 6 v. (7–12)

Contains executors' reports also.

Guardians' Report Record, 1872–date, 6 v. (1–6)

Estate Ledger, 1861–1876, 1 v. (B)

Widows' Relinquishment and Selection Record, 1868–date, 4 v. (B–E)

Clerk of the Circuit Court

CIRCUIT COURT RECORDS

Circuit Court Record: Common Law, Criminal, and Chancery, 1837–1852, 3 v. (A–C); Common Law and Criminal, 1852–1872, 7 v. (D–J); Common Law, 1872–date, 7 v. (K–Q); Criminal, 1872–date, 6 v. (K–P); Chancery, 1852–date, 26 v. (A–Z)

Index to Court Record, 1857–date, 4 v. each for plaintiff and defendant.

Circuit Court Files, 1837–date: Chancery, 176 f.b.; Common Law, 160 f.b.

Criminal papers are not kept in filingboxes but are stored in vault.

Naturalization Record, 1856–date, 6 v.

DOCKETS, FEE BOOKS, ETC.

Judges' Dockets, 1838–1877, in basement; 1878–1909, in vault; 1909–date, loose leaf.

General Docket, 1837–date, 3 v. (A–C)

The headings are number, names of parties and attorneys, action and remarks.

Judgment Docket, 1838–1877, 2 v. (A–B)

Execution Docket, 1838–1879, 3 v. (A–C)

Judgment and Execution Docket, 1877–date, 4 v. (D–G)

Docket of Mechanics' Liens, 1889–date, 1 v. (1)

Fee Book, 1838–1850, 4 v., in basement; 1850–date, 25 v. (A–Y)

Justice of the Peace Transcript Record, 1859–date, 4 v. (B–E)

Clerk of the Circuit Court

DEED AND MORTGAGE RECORDS

Entry Book, 1837–date, 14 v. (A–N)

Deed Record, 1837–date, 129 v. (A–Z, 27–129)

Mortgage Record, 1841–date, 68 v. (1–68)

Mortgage Release Record, 1866–date, 15 v. (A–O); Index, 1 v.

Mortgage Assignment Record, 1886–date, 2 v. (2–3)

This contains records of transfer or assignment of mortgages.

Plat Book, c. 1850–date, 2 v. (A–B)

General Index, 1837–date, 12 v. each for grantor and grantee.

Besides deeds this index carried mortgages up to 1871 and miscellaneous records up to 1885. Now it carries only deeds.

Mortgage Index, 1871–date, 3 v. each for mortgagor and mortgagee.

Chattel Mortgage Record, 1859–date, 36 v. (1–36)

Chattel Mortgage Index, 1858–date, 4 v. each for mortgagor and mortgagee.

Land Entry Book, c. 1840–1855, 1 v.; Index, 1 v.

Index to Surveys, Ogle County, n.d., 1 v.

Record of Sheriffs' and Masters' Certificates of Levy and Sale, 1844–date, 5 v. (A–E)

Collectors' Bond Record, 1858–date, 3 v. (1–3)

Miscellaneous Record, 1859–date, 13 v. (A–M)

Miscellaneous Index, 1885–date, 8 v.

This is an index to the miscellaneous records, e.g., transcripts, certificates of levy or sale, etc.

Register of Receipts and Expenditures, 1884–date, 1 v. (A)

PEORIA COUNTY[1]

Peoria county was set off from Fulton in 1825; the county seat is Peoria. The courthouse is of fireproof construction, but has no vaults. The county has separate probate clerks' and recorders' offices.

County Clerk

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' AND SUPERVISORS' RECORDS

County Commissioners' Court Record, March, 1825–June, 1850, 6 v. (A–F)[2]

The contents are: order to pay claims presented; records of ferry, tavern, merchants' licenses, etc.; ferry and tavern rates and taxes; appointment of road supervisors, justices, constables, school land trustees; record of road district boundaries, election precincts, judges of election, etc.; tax rates and levies and all other county business; abstract of votes on township organization, 1850. In the back of volume A is a "list of Bank Notes paid in Peoria County, Jan. to June Term 1833," giving name of bank, amount of note, and name of holder; the amounts are $5.00 and $10.00 and the notes are drawn on Buffalo, St. Louis, Philadelphia, Fayetteville, Cincinnati, New Orleans, Nashville, Pittsburgh, Louisville, Lexington and Oswego, N. Y.

Supervisors' Record, June, 1850–date, 18 v. (A–R)

Supervisors' Papers, 1850–date, 150 f.b.

"Records," September, 1832–February, 1850, 2 v.

The contents relate to roads exclusively, field notes, reports of viewers, plats, etc.

Road Papers, c. 1836–1856, 2 f.b.

The papers include plats and surveys, reports of viewers, appointment of viewers, etc.

[1] Examined February, 1912.

[2] In County commissioners' court record, D: 397, March 11, 1843, the following item is of interest:

"Ordered that the Sheriff be required to notify all negroes residing in the county of Peoria (except old black Charles) to enter into bond with security according to law or that he cause them to be removed from said county after ten days' notice."

"Notified" written in margin.

Register of County Orders, 1859–date, 12 v. (A–L)

Name of owner, amount, order, date, etc. are registered.

COUNTY COURT RECORDS

Common Law and Naturalization Record, May, 1855–June, 1858, 1 v.

Common law, chancery, insanity, and naturalization (record of final certificate) are recorded.

County Court Record, July, 1858–January, 1861, 1 v.

This volume is labeled "Record C" and contains common law and chancery proceedings.

Default Record, 1858–1873, 1 v.

County Court Record, 1872–date: Common Law, 12 v.; Criminal, 6 v.

Recognizance Record, 1873–date, 4 v. (1–4)

Index to Court Records (plaintiff and defendant), 2 v.

This gives number, date and title of case, and number of filingbox, with reference to record.

County Court Files: Common Law, Chancery, and Criminal, 1855–1872, 299 f.b.; Common Law and Criminal, 1872–date, 237 f.b.

The papers of the first series are filed together alphabetically, and those of the latter chronologically; but in it the common law and criminal papers are not numbered on the same general number. Common law runs from 1 to 5449; criminal from 1 to 340 [?].

Street Record, 1880–date, 10 v. (A–J)

Special assessments and petitions for and against improvements are recorded.

Assignment Record, 1877–date, 6 v. (A–F)

Adoption Record, 1891–date, 2 v. (1–2)

Delinquent Decree Record, May, 1911–date, 1 v.

Dependent Decree Record, June, 1911–date, 1 v.

Insanity Record, 1882–date, 3 v. (A, 1–2)

Naturalization Record: Declaration of Intention, 1858–1906, 3 v.; Final Certificate, 1858–1906, 8 v.; Minors, 1888–1906, 3 v.

Judges' Docket, 1872–date, 18 v.

Judgment Docket, 1872–date, 3 v.

Execution Docket, 1857–date, 3 v.

Naturalization Docket, October, 1888–October, 1896, 1 v. (1)

Name of applicant for final papers, witnesses, date, and order of court are recorded.

TAXATION RECORDS

Tax Levies, 1850–date, 29 f.b.

The contents include certificates of school, county, town, road and bridge levies, specifying amounts.

Road Tax Lists (land and personal), 1888–date, 17 f.b.

Railroad Tax Schedules of Value, 1873–date, 15 f.b.

Assessors' Books, 1900–date.

Collectors' Books, 1844–date.

Delinquent Tax Lists, 1858–date.

Board of Review Record, 1899–date, 3 v.

Board of Review Docket, 1899–date, 3 v.

Abstract of Tax Sales, 1823–c. 1865, 13 v.

The abstract gives date of sale; description of lot; total amount of tax, interest, and costs; amount sold and for what year's taxes; purchaser; amount of redemption; when made and by whom. Reference is made to book and page of sale record.

Tax Judgment Record, 1850–1872, 8 v.

Tax Judgment, Sale, Redemption, and Forfeiture Record, 1873–date, 46 v.

The title 1873–1879 is "Sale and Redemption Record."

Record of Affidavits for Tax Deeds, 1873–date, 7 v. (2–8)

Affidavits for Tax Deeds, 1849–date, 7 f.b.

RECORDS OF VITAL STATISTICS

Marriage Register, March, 1825–March, 1855, 1 v.

The volume registers date of license and of marriage, names and officiant. The volume is indexed by male.

Marriage Register, April, 1855–December, 1877, 4 v.

The contents are the same as those of the foregoing, but ages are given also.

Register of Marriages, January, 1878–date, 8 v. (6–13)

The board of health form is used.

Marriage Licenses, 1825–date, 70 f.b.

Marriage Affidavits, 1829–date, 30 f.b.

Register of Births, 1878–date, 9 v. (1–9)

Register of Deaths, 1876[?]–date, 7 v. (1–7)

Birth Reports, 1878–date, 39 f.b.
Death Reports, 1878–date, 17 f.b.
Record of Physicians' Certificates, 1878–date, 3 v. (A–C)
Record of Dentists' Certificates, 1878–date, 1 v. (A)
Architects' License Record, 1897–date, 2 v. (1–2)

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Abstract of Votes, Elections, 1906, 1 f.b.
Register of Town and County Officers, 1858–date, 1 v.
Register of Notaries Public, 1872–date, 2 v.
Name, date of election, and expiration of term are registered.

Estray Record, 1872–date, 1 v. (2)
Regimental Descriptive Book, 1861, 1 v.
The first part of the book contains list of commissioned officers, giving name, rank, date of appointment, remarks. The second part contains list of privates, giving name, age, height, complexion, color eyes, hair, place of birth, occupation; when, where, by whom and for what time enlisted; remarks as to death, discharge, promotion, etc. The commissioned officers are indexed.

Clerk of the Probate Court

PROBATE COURT RECORDS

Probate Record, 1825–1835, 1 v.
All probate business, wills, letters, bonds, sale and inventory bills, administrators' reports and accounts, claims against estates, etc., are recorded.

Probate Record, 1835–1849, 2 v.
Wills, letters bonds, and appointment of guardians are included.

Probate Record, 1849–date, 56 v. (1–56)
The record contains applications for administrators', executors' and guardians' letters, petitions for allowance of claims, reports of administrators, executors, or guardians, and petitions to sell real estate to pay debts.

Probate Order Book, 1840–1849, 1 v.
This contains mainly orders for allowance of claims.

Estate Files, 1825–date, 420 f.b.; Index, 1 v.
Guardianship Files, 1825–date, 81 f.b.; Index, 1 v.
Conservatorship Files, 1890–date, 30 f.b.

DOCKETS AND FEE BOOKS

Probate Judgment Docket, 1859–date, 4 v. (1–4)
Estate Docket, 1856–date, 7 v. (A–G)
Probate Fee Book, 1865–date, 16 v. (A–M, A–C)

RECORDS OF WILLS, BONDS, AND LETTERS

Will Record, 1849–date, 16 v. (A–16)
Record of Letters and Bonds, September, 1855–August, 1859, 1 v. (C)

Administrators', executors' and guardians' bonds are included.

Administrators' Record, 1856–1861, 1 v.; 1865–date, 13 v. (B–N)
Executors' Record, 1858–date, 9 v. (B–J)
Conservators' Record, 1875–date, 2 v. (1–2)
Guardians' Record, 1858–date, 8 v. (A–H)
Miscellaneous Bond Record, 1891–date, 2 v. (1–2)

Bonds of administrators de bonis non, and administrators with will annexed are included.

INVENTORIES, APPRAISEMENTS, AND SALE BILLS

Record of Inventory and Sale Bills, 1834–1849, 3 v.

The volumes are labeled "Inventories."

Inventory Record, 1858–date, 15 v. (A–O)
Guardians' Inventory Record, 1873–date, 3 v. (1–3)
Appraisement and Sale Bill Record, 1850–1859, 2 v. (A–B)
Appraisement Record, 1858–date, 11 v. (B–L)
Sale Record, 1858–date, 12 v.

This contains a record of sales of personal property at public or private sale and sales of real estate to pay debts.

REPORT RECORDS

Administrators' Accounts, 1836–1849, 1 v.

These include accounts of receipts from sale bills, notes, and other sources and of money paid out on claims.

Administrators' Accounts, 1850–1865, 1 v. (B)

This contains list of claims allowed against estates, giving date, name of claimant, nature of claim, date allowed and amount.

Probate Ledger, 1865–1890, 2 v. (1–2)

Contents: administrators' and executors' accounts showing receipts and money paid out.

Administrators' and Executors' Report Record, 1882–date, 13 v. (1–13)

Volumes 1 and 2 (1882–1886) contain guardians' and conservators' reports also.

Guardians' Report Record, 1885–date, 7 v. (1–7)

Conservators' Report Record, 1895–date, 3 v. (1–3)

Widows' Relinquishment and Selection Record, 1874–date, 6 v. (A–F)

Clerk of the Circuit Court

CIRCUIT COURT RECORDS

Circuit Court Record, Common Law, 1828–date, 47 v.

Chancery records are recorded in this series till 1839, and criminal till 1855.

Recognizance Record, 1870–date, 3 v. (A–C)

Record of Judgment by Confession, 1859–date, 2 v. (A–B)

Default Record, 1860–1881, 2 v. (A–B)

Criminal Record, 1855–date, 22 v. (A–V)

Chancery Record, 1839–date, 58 v. (A–58)

Complete Record, May, 1839–November, 1873, 2 v. (A–B)

Circuit Court Files, 1825–date: Common Law and Chancery, 1243 f.b.; Criminal, 171 f.b.

Naturalization Record: Declaration of Intention, 1874–1900, 1 v.; Final Certificate, 1861–1881, 2 v.; Minors, 1869–1896, 2 v.

DOCKETS, FEE BOOKS, ETC.

Judges' Docket, 1838–date, 110 v.

Appearance Docket, 1844–date, 20 v.

This is a clerks' entry docket, giving number of case, names of parties, kind of action, names of attorneys, etc.

Docket of Mechanics' Liens, 1887–date, 3 v.

Judgment Docket, 1838–date, 23 v. (B–X)

Index to Judgment Docket, 1854–date, 9 v. each for plaintiff and defendant.

Execution Docket, 1827–1846, 1 v. (A); 1839–1850, 1 v. (B); 1851–date, 8 v. (C–J)

Fee Book, 1838–date, 45 v.

Justice of the Peace Transcript Record, 1845–date, 8 v. (A–H)

States Attorneys' Report Record, 1873–date, 1 v.

Recorder

Entry Book, 1825–date, 87 v.

Deed Record (transcribed), 1817–1833, 3 v.

Transcripts of records of Madison, Fulton, Fayette, Pike, and other counties affecting titles in Peoria county.

Deed Record, 1824–date, 292 v.

Warranty deeds, quit claim deeds, releases, and miscellaneous records are all kept in same series; so also are the sheriffs' and masters' certificate records.

Mortgage Record, 1836–date, 176 v.

Mortgages, trust deeds, etc. are recorded.

Sectional Index, 1825–date, 79 v.

Chattel Mortgage Record, 1886–date, 46 v.

Prior to 1886 chattel mortgages were recorded in mortgage record.

Index to Chattel Mortgages, 1886–date, 4 v.

Record of Sheriffs' Certificates of Levy, 1846–1900, 1 v.; 1891–date, 1 v. (2)

Original Land Entry Book (transcribed), 1835–1855, 1 v.

In the back of this volume is a list of school lands.

Corporation Record, 1850–date, 7 v. (1–7)

Certificates of incorporation of societies and certificates of election of trustees for churches, lodges, etc. are included.

Official Bond Record, 1850–date, 4 v. (A–D)

Bonds of town collectors, etc. are recorded in this series.

Army Discharges, October, 1863–December, 1895, 1 v.

Soldiers' Discharge Record, August, 1865–date, 1 v.

Stallion Register, 1910–date, 1 v.

Index to Nondescript Papers, 3 v.

Headings: names of grantor and grantee, kind of instrument, date recorded, volume and page. Powers of attorney, leases, contracts, licenses, certificates of election, etc. are included.

PERRY COUNTY[1]

Perry county was set off from Randolph and Jackson in 1827; the county seat is Pinckneyville. The courthouse is in a public square. It has electric lights and steam heat but is not of fireproof construction. The vaults are rather small but are fireproof. Some old tax records, election returns, etc. are filed in a gallery over the jury room.

County Clerk

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' AND SUPERVISORS' RECORDS

County Commissioners' Record, September, 1828–December, 1849, 3 v.

County Court Record, December, 1849–March, 1872, 3 v. (1, A–B)

County Commissioners' Record, 1872–date, 3 v. (C–E)

Militia Roll Record and Road District Record, 1 v.

The first eight or ten pages contain militia list of county, 1861–1862. The remainder of the book contains descriptions of road district boundaries. The volume is 8 x 13 inches.

Record of Road Plats and Surveys, 1873–1887, 1 v.

Road Petitions, 1829–1887, 8 f.b.

Reports of Road Supervisors and Viewers, 1827–1865, 1 f.b.

Register of Railroad Bonds, 1871, 1 v.

The register gives: number, date, and amount of bond; when due and to what railroad subscription was made.

List of County Orders, 1827–1843, 1 v.

This contains date and amount of order and to whom issued. The volume is 6 x 8 inches.

Jury List, 1872–date, 1 v.

COUNTY COURT RECORDS

County Court Record, 1872–date: Criminal, 2 v. (1–2); Common Law, 1 v. (1)

[1] Examined May, 1912.

County Court Files, 1872–date: Criminal, 36 f.b.; Common Law, 13 f.b.
Adoption Papers, 1868–date, 2 f.b.
Insanity Record, 1885–date, 4 v. (A–B, 1–2)
Insanity Files, 1852–date, 8 f.b.
Naturalization Record, 1864–1903, 2 v. (A–B); 1904–1906, 1 v. (1)
Naturalization Papers, 1864–1903, 4 f.b.
Judges' Docket, 1872–date, 3 v. (1–3)
Judgment Docket, 1872–date, 1 v. (1)
Execution Docket, 1872–date, 1 v. (1)
Insanity Docket, 1893–date, 1 v. (1)

Name of person alleged to be insane, name of person making petition, names of jury and witnesses, and verdict are recorded.

County Court Fee Book, 1872–date, 7 v. (1–7)
Register of Jurors, 1872–date, 1 v.

TAXATION RECORDS

Abstract of Assessment and Taxes, 1899–date, 2 v. (C–D)
County Clerks' Statement of Taxes to Auditor, 1858–date, 1 v.
List of Lands Lying in Perry County Taxable in 1838, as copied from Auditor's Books, 1 v., 8 x 13 inches.
Original Land Entry Book, c. 1818–1896, 1 v.
School District Plat Book, 1855–1866, 1 v.; 1866–date, 2 v. (A–B)
Railroad and Telegraph Tax Schedules, 1879–date, 4 f.b.
Assessors' Books and Collectors' Books, 1853–date.

The collectors' books are in the vault, but the assessors' books (except for the last few years) are in the jury room.

Railroad Tax Book, 1873–date, 3 v. (1–3)
Telephone and Telegraph Tax Book, 1895–date, 2 v. (1–2)
Board of Review Record, 1899–date, 1 v. (1)
Board of Review Complaint Docket, 1899–date, 1 v. (1)
Tax Judgment Record, 1852–1879, 5 v. (A–E)
Tax Sale Record, 1833–1879, 4 v. (A–D)
Tax Judgment, Sale, Redemption, and Forfeiture Record, 1880–date, 6 v. (F–K)
Record of Affidavits for Tax Deeds, 1872–date, 4 v. (A–D)
Affidavits for Tax Deeds, 1890–date, 6 f.b.

RECORDS OF VITAL STATISTICS

"Marriage Record, November, 1827–January, 1850," 1 v.

Marriage Record, February, 1850–November, 1859, 1 v.

This is a record of issuance of license, with copy of the certificate of marriage returned by the officiant. It gives names of parties, date of marriage, and by whom performed.

Marriage Record, October, 1859–February, 1868, 1 v. (A)

Copy of license and of certificate are recorded.

Marriage Record, March, 1868–December, 1903, 1 v. (B)

Date of license, names of man and woman, date of marriage and name of person officiating are included.

Register of Marriages, 1878–date, 2 v. (1–2)

The board of health form is used.

Index to Marriages: Female, 1868–date, 1 v.; Male, 1907–date, 1 v. (C)

Record of Applications for Marriage License, 1907–date, 3 v. (2–4)

Marriage Licenses, 1827–date, 38 f.b.

Birth Record, March, 1867–September, 1874, 1 v.

This volume is 8 x 13 inches; only twenty-five pages are used. It contains name of child and date of birth. Some of the births registered date back to 1857.

Register of Births, 1878–date, 3 v. (A–C); Index, 1 v.

Register of Still Births, 1878–date, 1 v.

Register of Deaths, 1878–date, 2 v. (1–2); Index, 1 v.

Coroners' Record of Death Certificates, May, 1911–date, 1 v. (1)

Birth Reports, 1878–date, 11 f.b.

Death Reports, 1878–date, 6 f.b.

Record of Physicians' Certificates, 1877–date, 2 v. (A–B)

Census of United States, 1840, 1 v.

Compendium of Sixth Census of United States (1840), 1 v.

Census Schedules, 1880, 1 v.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Election Papers, 1864–date, 38 f.b.

The series includes poll books, tally sheets, and abstracts of votes, well arranged and labeled.

Poll Books, 1828–1860.

These are in a box with other miscellaneous papers in jury room.

Record of County and Township Officers, 1860–date, 1 v.
Name, date of election, name of office, etc. are recorded.

Census of Pensioners for Revolutionary or [other(?)] Military Services, 1840, giving their names, ages, and place of residence

"Record of Ear Marks," 1827–1894, 1 v., 6 x 8 inches, leather bound.

Estray Record, 1834–1908, 3 v. (1–3)

Teachers' Schedules, 1839.
These are reports to school commissioners by teachers, showing number of pupils and record of attendance. Two bundles are in box with poll books in gallery in the jury room.

Swamp Land Record, 1854–1859, 1 v.
The volume contains abstract of swamp lands, plats, etc.

County Clerk—Probate

PROBATE COURT RECORDS

Probate Record, 1828–1858, 7 v. (A–G)
The contents are: record of orders and proceedings of probate court including appointment of guardians, administrators, etc.; settlement of claims; reports; etc.

Probate Record, 1859–date, 12 v. (1–12)

Probate Files, 1827–date: Estates, 231 f.b.; Guardians, etc., 77 f.b.

Index to Estates, 1 v.

Index to Guardians, 1 v.

Probate Judgment Docket, 1859–1877, 1 v. (A)

Probate Fee Book, 1860–date, 11 v. (A–K)

RECORDS OF WILLS, BONDS, AND LETTERS

Record of Wills, 1867–date, 2 v. (B–C)

Estate Record and Docket, 1875–date, 11 v. (D–N)
This contains copy of administrator's bond, oath and letters, and list of claims against estate.

Will and Executors' Record, 1897–date, 2 v. (D–E)
This contains copy of will, record of probate of will, proof of death, etc., executor's bond, oath and letters.

Administrators' and Will Record, 1829–1875, 3 v.
Wills, bonds, and letters of administration are recorded.

Administrators' Record, 1860–1873, 1 v. (A)
Executors' Record, 1865–1873, 1 v. (A)
Guardians' Record, 1860–date, 5 v. (A–E)

INVENTORIES, APPRAISEMENTS, AND SALE BILLS

Miscellaneous Bond Record, 1873–date, 6 v. (A–F)
Inventory, Appraisement, and Sale Bills [Record], 1859–1877, 2 v. (1–2)
Inventory Record, 1865–date, 5 v. (A–E)
Guardians' Inventory Record, 1872–date, 1 v. (1)
Appraisement Record, 1865–date, 6 v. (A–F)
Sale Record, 1866–date, 4 v. (A–D)

REPORT RECORDS, ETC.

Probate Ledger, 1860–1889, 1 v. (A)
This contains a record of accounts current of administrators with estates.
Report Record, 1886–date, 3 v. (A–C)
Widows' Relinquishment and Selection Record, 1895–1909, 1 v. (A)
Widows' Award and Selection Record, 1909–date, 1 v. (B)
Record of Proceedings on Petitions to Sell Real Estate to Pay Debts, 1867–date, 3 v. (A–C)

Clerk of the Circuit Court

CIRCUIT COURT RECORDS

Circuit Court Record: Common Law, Chancery, and Criminal, 1827–1865, 7 v. (A–G); Chancery, 1865–date, 16 v. (1–16) Common Law and Criminal, 1865–1874, 3 v.; Common Law, 1874–date, 3 v.; Criminal, 1874–date, 3 v.
Circuit Court Files, 1828–date: Common Law, 140 f.b.; Criminal, 50 f.b.; Chancery, 205 f.b.
The above papers are filed in cardboard boxes fitted into wooden pigeonholes. The cases are numbered and indexed by number.
Index to Court Record, 1857–date, 2 v. each for plaintiff and defendant.
Naturalization Record, 1860–1898, 2 v.

DOCKETS, FEE BOOKS, ETC.

"Circuit Court Docket A," 1837–1841, 1 v., 8 x 13 inches.
Judges' Docket, 1840–1903, 13 v. (B–N)
Judgment Docket, 1838–date, 8 v. (1, A–G)
Execution Docket, 1858–date, 3 v. (B–D)
Fee Book, 1827–date, 31 v. (A–Z, 1–5)

Volumes A–H, 1827–1857, are small cardboard bound books, 8 x 13 inches.

Record of Justices' Transcripts, 1847–1860, 1 v. (A), 8 x 13 inches.
Justice of the Peace Transcript Record, 1857–date, 2 v. (1–2)
Register of Jurors, 1860–date, 1 v.

Name of juror, amount and date of orders on treasurer are registered.

CIRCUIT CLERK—RECORDER

Entry Book, 1835–1857, 2 v., 8 x 13 inches; 1857–date, 9 v. (A–I)
Deed Record, 1829–date, 88 v. (A–Z, 1–62)
Mortgage Record, 1864–date, 46 v. (A–Z, 1–20)

Chattel mortgages are kept in this series, but in volumes by themselves.

Oil and Gas Lease Record, 1908–date, 3 v. (1–3)
Index to Deeds, 1835–date, 7 v. each for grantor and grantee.
Index to Mortgages, 1864–date, 4 v. (A–D) each for mortgagor and mortgagee.
Index to Marginal Releases and Assignments, 1905–date, 1 v. (1)
Index to Chattel Mortgages.
Surveyors' Record, 1885–date, 3 v. (B, 1–2)
Township Treasurers' Bond Record, 1894–date, 1 v. (1)
Stallion Register, 1910–date, 2 v.

PIATT COUNTY[1]

Piatt county was set off from Macon and De Witt in 1841; the county seat is Monticello. The courthouse is fireproof and is equipped with vaults.

County Clerk

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' AND SUPERVISORS' RECORDS

County Commissioners' Court Record, 1843–1855, 1 v. (A)

This volume is labeled "Record A." It contains records relating to roads, bridges, lists of jurors, list of claims allowed against county, etc. It is in the circuit clerk's vault.

Court Record B, December, 1855–March, 1860, 1 v.

This volume is in the circuit clerk's vault.

Supervisors' Record, March, 1860–date, 10 v. (C–L)

Supervisors' Papers, c. 1860–date, 56 f.b.

Claims and reports are included.

Register of Interest Paying Bonds issued by Supervisors, 1862–1866, 1 v.

This contains number, date, and amount of each bond; to whom issued and for what purpose, amount of interest, date of payment, remarks. The bonds were issued to assist volunteers' families, for care of poor, etc.

Jury List, 1872–date, 1 v.

COUNTY COURT RECORDS

County Court Record (common law and criminal), 1872–date, 6 v.

County Court Files, 1872–date, 38 f.b.

Index to Court Record, 1872–1908, 1 v. each for plaintiff and defendant.

Index to Files, 1908–date, 1 v., indexed by defendant.

The index lists number of case, defendant, plaintiff, kind of action, and number of filingbox.

Lake Fork Special Drainage Record, 1882–date, 10 v.

[1] Examined March, 1912.

Election of drainage commissioners, plats of drains, assessments, etc. are recorded.

Lake Fork Drainage Papers, 35 f.b.

Insanity Record, 1880–date, 2 v.

The form includes record of trial and disposition.

Naturalization Record: Declaration of Intention, 1864–1906, 1 v.; Final Certificate, Soldiers and Minors, 1864–1906, 3 v.; Final Certificate, Adults, 1884–1906, 2 v.

Judges' Docket (common law and criminal), 1872–date, 3 v.

Judgment Docket, 1872–1877, 1 v.

Execution Docket, 1872–1877, 1 v.

Judgment and Execution Docket, 1877–date, 2 v. (1–2)

Fee Book (common law and criminal), 1872–date, 6 v. (A–F)

TAXATION RECORDS

Abstract of Assessment and Taxes, 1868–date, 2 v.

This shows value of lands, lots, and personal property in each township, and amount of the various taxes levied thereon; also amount of tax levied on railroad and telegraph companies.

School District Plat Book, 1857–date, 3 v.

"Land Book," 1836–c. 1856, 1 v.

This is an original entry book, showing date of entry, patentee, amount and value of land, location and description.

Auditors' Transcript, c. 1850, 1 v.

In the back of the volume is a list of county orders, March to September, 1854.

Abstract of Illinois Central Lands, 1855, 1 f.b.

The abstract was made from books of the auditor of public accounts.

Railroad Tax Schedules, 1868–date, 6 f.b.

Assessors' Books, 1853–date.

Collectors' Books, 1850–date.

Railroad Tax Book, 1867–date, 6 v.

Board of Review Record, 1899–date, 1 v.

Board of Review Complaint Docket, 1899–date, 1 v.

Tax Judgment Record, 1858–1879, 3 v. (B–D)

Tax Sale Record, 1858–1879, 4 v. (B–E)

Record of Forfeited Lands, 1872–1879, 1 v.

Record of Sale and Redemption, Delinquent Lands, 1841–1856, 1 v.

This contains a list of lands and lots sold for taxes.

Tax Judgment, Sale, Redemption, and Forfeiture Record, 1880–date, 6 v. (F–K)

Record of Affidavits for Tax Deeds, 1872–date, 3 v. (A–C)

RECORDS OF VITAL STATISTICS

Marriage Register, April, 1841–date, 3 v. (A–C); Index by male in each volume.

The register contains name of man and woman, date of license, date of marriage and by whom certified, and date recorded.

Register of Marriages, January, 1878–date, 2 v. (C–D); Index, 1 v.

The board of health form is used.

Marriage Licenses, 1841–date, 18 f.b.

The files earlier than 1854 are mixed with miscellaneous papers in several boxes and can be found only by means of the index.

Register of Births, December, 1877–date, 3 v. (1–3); Index, 1 v.

Register of Still Births, 1877–date, 1 v.

Register of Deaths, 1877–date, 3 v. (1–3); Index, 1 v.

Birth and Death Reports, 1877–date, 5 f.b.

Record of Physicians' and Midwives' Certificates, 1877–date, 1 v. (1)

Record of Dentists' Certificates, 1908–date, 1 v. (1)

Register of Dentists, 1877–date, 1 v.

List of Inhabitants in County, 1880, 1 folder for each township.

The list gives name, age, sex, and color.

Census of Piatt County, 1860.

The census contains: list of all inhabitants, giving age, sex, color, occupation, value of property, place of birth; number in school and number unable to read and write; list of persons who died June 1, 1859–June 1, 1860, stating cause of death; agriculture—names of land owners, acres of land and cash value, number and value of stock, amount and value of produce; social statistics—colleges, schools, libraries, churches, newspapers, pauperism, crime, wages. Under social statistics there are no entries except one newspaper, the *Monticello Conservative*—Republican, weekly, circulation 375.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Election Returns, Tally Sheet and Poll Book, 1842.

Abstracts of Votes, 1842–date.

These are filed in various places and indexed.

Justices' and Constables' Bond Record, 1874–date, 2 v. (1–2)

Assessors' Bond Record, 1899–date, 1 v. (1)

Register of Commissions, 1842–1856, 1 v.; 1860–1898, 2 v.

Docket of Official Bonds, 1886–date, 2 v. (1–2)

Name and office of principal, names of sureties, amount of bond, date filed and approved, and remarks are registered.

Record of Marks and Brands, 1847–1880, 1 v.

Estray Record, 1850–1899, 2 v.

Militia Record, c. 1860.

There is 1 v. for each of the following townships: Monticello, Unity, Cerro Gordo, Willow Branch, Sangamon, Blue Ridge and Bement.

Index to Miscellaneous Papers in Vault, 1 v.

Miscellaneous Record, 1900–date, 1 v.

This contains stallion certificates, city ordinances, petitions for local improvements, special bonds of administrators, executors, etc.

Record of Blind Pensioners, 1904–date, 1 v.

County Clerk—Probate

PROBATE COURT RECORDS

Probate Court Record, 1843–date, 28 v.

Till 1859 all probate records were kept in the same volume. Today this series contains little more than court decrees.

Probate Judgment Record on Claims, 1882–1910, 3 v.

This is a record of judge's decrees on claims.

Probate Files, 1841–date, 160 f.b.

These papers are filed in arbitrary order, and indexed.

Probate Index: Guardians, 1 v.; Estate, 1 v.

DOCKETS AND FEE BOOKS

Probate Judges' Docket, 1858–date, 16 v. (1, A–O)

Probate Judgment Docket, 1858–date, 6 v. (A–F); Index (direct and indirect), 2 v.

This shows name of estate and of claimant, date, nature and amount of claim, and order of court thereon.

Guardians' Docket, 1864–date, 1 v. (1)

The docket contains name of guardian and of ward, date of letters of guardianship, amount of bond, date and amount of inventories, settlements, etc.

Probate Estate Docket, 1858–1871, 1 v. (A)

Name of estate and administrator, date of letters, amount of bond names of widow and heirs; date, amount and place of record of all sale bills, inventories, reports, etc. are recorded.

Execution Docket, 1859–1872, 1 v.

This contains executions issued against estates in favor of claimants.

Probate Fee Book, 1849–date, 10 v.

RECORDS OF WILLS, BONDS, AND LETTERS

Record of Letters and Wills, January, 1850–November, 1858; May, 1862–January, 1875, 1 v. (A)

The first part contains bonds, and oaths of administrators, executors, and guardians, wills and apprenticeship indentures; the second part contains wills, letters and bonds of executors.

Record of Wills, 1867–date, 3 v. (B–D)

Record of Affidavits of Posting Notices, 1866–1876, 1 v. (A), indexed.

This contains affidavits that notice to file claim was given to claimants against estate.

Administrators' Record, 1859–date, 5 v. (A–E)

Executors' Record, 1875–date, 3 v. (A–C)

Conservators' Record, 1887–date, 1 v.

Guardians' Record, March, 1859–date, 4 v. (A–D)

Miscellaneous Bond Record, 1889–date, 1 v. (1)

Bonds of administrators de bonis non, etc. are recorded.

INVENTORIES, APPRAISEMENTS, SALE BILLS, ETC.

Inventory, Appraisement, and Sale Bill Record, December, 1860–May, 1869, 1 v. (A)

Inventory Record, July, 1869–date, 4 v. (B–E)

Guardians' Inventory Record, 1875–date, 1 v. (A)

Conservators' Inventory Record, 1899–date, 1 v. (A)

Appraisement Record, July, 1869–date, 5 v. (B–F)

Sale Record, May, 1869–date, 4 v. (B–E)

Probate Accounts Current, 1850–1857, 1 v.

This contains report of current accounts, showing receipts and expenditures.

Probate Accounts Current, 1872–1901, 1 v.

This is a combination of account current and estate docket.

Administrators' and Executors' Report Record, 1857–date, 8 v. (A–H)

Guardians' reports were recorded in these volumes up to 1886, and conservators' reports up to 1897.

Conservators' Report Record, 1897–date, 1 v. (A)

Guardians' Report Record, 1886–date, 4 v. (1–4)

Till 1886 guardians' reports were kept in the report record with administrators' and executors' reports.

Estate Ledger, 1903–date, 3 v. (2–4)

This is a combination of docket and ledger; it gives name of estate, name of administrator or executor, amount of bond, date of letters, etc.; date and amount of appraisement bills, sale bills, settlements, etc.; and also list of claims allowed against estate.

Widows' Relinquishment and Selection Record, 1860–date, 4 v. (1–4)

Record of Petition and Report, Sale of Real Estate, 1903–date, 1 v. (1)

This contains petition to sell real estate to pay debts, and report of liabilities and assets of estate, and amount paid on liabilities.

Record of Bonds for Sale of Real Estate, 1905–date, 1 v. (1)

Record of Petitions to Sell Real Estate to Pay Debts, 1867–1876, 1 v.; 1908–date, 1 v.

Clerk of the Circuit Court

CIRCUIT COURT RECORDS

Circuit Court Record: Common Law, Chancery, and Criminal, 1841–1889, 18 v. (B–S); Chancery 1889–date, 6 v. (U, V, X, Y, Z, 27); Common Law, 1889–date, 3 v. (T, W, 28); Criminal, 1889–date, 3 v. (1–3)

Circuit Court Record (chancery), May, 1841–May, 1847, 1 v., not indexed.

This is labeled "Court Docket, No. 1."

Circuit Court Record, October, 1846, 1 v.

Several long partition suits are recorded.

Index to Court Record, 1858–date, 2 v. each for plaintiff and defendant.

Circuit Court Files, 1841–date: Common Law, 144 f.b.; Chancery, 144 f.b.; Criminal, 48 f.b.

The case papers are filed alphabetically.

Naturalization Record, 1858–1884, 4 v.

DOCKETS, FEE BOOKS, ETC.

Court Docket, 1853–1869, 4 v.

Judges' Docket, 1869–1908, 7 v.; 1909–date (loose leaf), 1 v. each for common law, chancery, and criminal.

Judgment Docket, 1841–1874, 4 v. (1, A–C)

Execution Docket, 1841–1874, 4 v. (1–4)

Judgment and Execution Docket, 1874–date, 6 v. (D–I)

Docket of Mechanics' Liens, 1887–date, 1 v. (1)

Fee Book (common law, chancery, and criminal), 1853–date, 18 v. (A–R)

Justice of the Peace Transcript Record, 1861–date, 2 v. (A–B)

Indictment Record, 1874–1904, 1 v. (A)

States Attorneys' Report Record, 1872–date, 1 v.

Circuit Clerk—Recorder

Entry Book, 1867–date, 7 v. (A–G)

Deed and Mortgage Record, 1840–date, 146 v.

Till 1870, mortgages, deeds, releases, sheriffs' and masters' certificates of sale, etc. were kept in the same volumes. Since that date the various types of instruments have been kept in volumes by themselves, but the volumes are numbered in the same series.

Plat Record, 1901–date, 1 v. (1)

This contains plats of railroad rights of way.

General Index, 1841–date, 12 v. each for grantor and grantee.

Chattel Mortgage Record, 1861–date, 30 v. (A–Z, 1–4)

Index to Chattel Mortgages, 1 v.

Record of United States Surveys (1875), 1 v.

This shows location (by description and plats) of the corners of exterior and interior sections of the lands in the different townships.

Original Land Entry Book, 1836–1854, 1 v.

This contains a description of land, location (section, town, range), number of acres, by whom entered, date and remarks; also notes as to swamp land and railroad land.

Surveyors' Record, December, 1843–date, 5 v. (A–E)

The record contains field notes and plats.

Collectors' Bond Record, 1860–date, 2 v.

Soldiers' Discharge Record, 1865–1905, 1 v.

"Soldiers' Enlistment Record—Late Unpleasantness," 1861, 1 v.

This volume gives the items of name, rank, age, description, occupation, place of birth, place and date of enlistment and for what period, and remarks.

Stallion Register, 1910–date, 1 v. (1); Renewals, 1911–date, 1 v. (1)

PIKE COUNTY[1]

Pike county was set off in 1821 from Madison, Bond, and Clark; the county seat is Pittsfield.

County Clerk

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' AND SUPERVISORS' RECORDS

County Commissioners' Court Record, 1821–1850, 9 v.

Supervisors' Record, 1850–date, 7 v. (1–7)

The volumes of the first series have recently been rebound.

Supervisors' Papers, 1877–date, 58 f.b.

Register of County Orders Allowed, 1837–date, 7 v.

Miscellaneous Record, 1 v.

This contains supervisors' orders, 1850–1863; register of county orders issued by Pike county to Hannibal and Naples railroad company, 1869–1874; register of bonds issued to O. M. Hatch for the Hannibal-Naples railroad company, 1869–1870; register of bonds to purchase and refund outstanding railroad indebtedness, 1878.

Miscellaneous Record, 1833–1844.

This record contains permits issued by county commissioners' court to taverns, and for sale of goods; record of tax for permission to do business, record of court fines, tax judgment, sale, redemption, and forfeiture.

Jury List, 1872–date, 1 v.

COUNTY COURT RECORDS

County Court Record: Common Law and Criminal, 1872–1887, 1 v. (1); Common Law, 1888–date, 1 v. (2); Criminal, 1888–date, 2 v. (2–3)

Index, 1872–date, 1 v.

Record of Defaults, 1873–date, 1 v.

Common Law Files, 1873–date, 13 f.b., indexed by number.

Criminal Files, 1874–date, 14 f.b., indexed by number.

[1] Examined June, 1912; reëxamined June, 1915.

Levee Assessments, 1872, 1875, 1880, 1883, 1888, 1892, 1904, 1905–1908, 9 v.

Drainage Board Record, 1881–date, 4 v. (A–D)

Drainage Assessment Papers, 1880–date.

These are loose files under desk.

Voluntary Insolvency Record, 1881–date, 3 v. (1–3)

Assignment Papers, 1890–date, 5 f.b.

Adoption Papers, 1902–date, 1 f.b.

Insane and Conservators' Record, 1868–1907, 2 v.

Insanity Record, 1893–date, 2 v.

Naturalization Record (final certificate), 1884–date, 2 v.

Miscellaneous Court Record, 1871–date, 2 v. (1–2)

This contains much miscellaneous business not connected with the county court.

Judges' Dockets: Common Law, 1871–date; Criminal, 1871–date.

County Court Fee Book, 1872–date, 1 v., marked "Fee Book–CC–."

Drainage Fee Book, 1908–date, 1 v.

TAXATION RECORDS

Docket of Certificates of Rates and Amount of Taxes Wanted, 1876–date, 3 v. (A–C)

Certificates of Levy, 1895–1905, 11 f.b.

School Plat Record, 1875–date, 1 v.

This shows boundaries of each school district in township.

Railroad Assessments, 1882–1905, 8 f.b.

Assessors' Book (real and personal property), 1836–1837, 1839–1850, 1870–date.

These are in basement vault except the current volumes.

Collectors' Books, 1851–date.

Early volumes are in basement vault and the current books in county clerk's and treasurer's office.

Railroad Tax Book, 1873–date, 3 v.

Tax Sale Record, 1823–1833, 1 v.

Record of Forfeited Lands, 1873–1879, 1 v.

Tax Judgment, Sale, Redemption, and Forfeiture Record, 1833–1911, 22 v.

Record of Affidavits for Tax Deeds, 1867–date, 3 v. (A–B, 3)

Affidavits for Tax Deeds, 1894–date, 1 f.b.
Notices of Tax Sales (newspaper lists), 1851–1866.

RECORDS OF VITAL STATISTICS

Record of Marriages, 1827–date, 4 v. (1–4); Index 4 v. (1–4)
The record gives date of license, names of man and woman, by whom married, and date of marriage.

Register of Marriages, 1877–date, 3 v. (1–3); Index, 2 v. (1–2) each for male and female.
The register contains: number of license, name, residence, occupation, age, race, place of birth of contracting parties, where married, witnesses, and name of officer issuing certificate; board of health form.

Marriage License Files, 1831–date, 30 f.b.
These are labeled "Marriages," and indexed chronologically.

Register of Births, 1877–date, 6 v. (1–6); Index, 1 v.
Register of Still Births, 1878–1905, 1 v.
The register since 1905 is continued in birth register.

Register of Deaths, 1877–date, 3 v. (1–3); Index, 1 v.
Birth Reports, 1902–date, 10 f.b.
Record of Physicians' Certificates, 1877–date, 2 v. (1–2)
Record of Nurses' Certificates, 1909–date, 1 v.
Register of Physicians and Accoucheurs, 1877–date, 1 v.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Election Returns, Tally Sheets and Poll Lists, 1856–1894.
These are in basement vault in loose bundles.

Assessors' Bond Record, 1899–date, 1 v. (A)
Justices' and Constables' Bond Record, 1880–date, 4 v. (A–D)
Register of Commissions of County Officers, 1857–date, 4 v. (1–4)
Registers of County and Township Officers, 1835–1847, 1887–date.
Register of Marks and Brands, 1821–1873, 1 v.
Estray Record, 1866–1904, 1 v.
Certificates of Board of Agriculture, 1884–date, 1 v.
Coroners' Inquest Files, 1833–date, 4 f.b.
Miscellaneous Files, 1835–date, in cupboard.
Paper Files of Reports of Justices and Police Magistrates, 1896–date, 1 b.
Account with County, 1835–1839, 1 v.

Amounts of moneys received, county orders upon county commissioners, receipts, etc. are recorded.

County Treasurer in Account with County Clerk, 1894–date, 1 v.
Record Book of Pike County Historical Society.
Justice of the Peace Docket, 1888–1896, 2 v.

County Clerk—Probate

PROBATE COURT RECORDS

Probate Record, 1821–1865, 11 v.
This contains wills, bonds and letters of administrators, inventories, sale bills, reports and settlements.

Probate Order Book, 1855–date, 28 v. (11–38)
This is a record of court proceedings in administration of wills and estates, court orders, claims allowed, etc.

Estate Files, 1852–date, 172 f.b.
Files of Minors' Estates, 1847–date, 37 f.b.
Papers of conservators, guardians, etc. are included.

Index to Probate Files (estates and guardians), 1 v.

DOCKETS AND FEE BOOKS

Probate Judges' Docket, 1853–date, 58 v.
Probate Claim Docket, 1905–date, 1 v.
Guardianship Docket, 1858–1873, 1 v. (1)
Probate Fee Book, 1861–1885, 3 v. (A–C); continued in
Estate Fee Book, 5 v. (D–H), to date.
Guardians' Fee Book, 1853–1858, 1 v.
Guardians', Conservators' and Miscellaneous Fee Book, 1911–date, 1 v. (B)

RECORDS OF WILLS, BONDS, LETTERS, ETC.

Record of Wills, 1855–1870, 1 v. (A)
This is a longhand form.

Record of Wills, 1870–date, 7 v. (A–G)
Printed form.

Administrators' Record, 1866–date, 7 v. (A–G)
Petition, oath of administrator, bond, and letters are recorded.

Administrators' and Guardians' Bond Record, 1904–date, 1 v. (1)
Executors' Record, 1866–date, 4 v. (A–D)

The record contains petition, bond of executor, letters testamentary, appointment of appraisers.

Guardians' Record, 1866–date, 6 v. (A–F)

The volumes record appointment of guardian, guardian's bond, and letters of guardianship.

Administrators' Record de Bonis Non, 1899–date, 1 v. (2)

Administrators' Record, with Will Annexed, 1888–date, 1 v. (B)

Probate Bonds and Letters Miscellaneous, 1873–1886, 1 v. (A)

This contains bonds of administrators de bonis non, with will annexed, to collect, and additional bond.

Inventories, Appraisement Bills, etc., 1866 *et seq.*

With v. 16, of the probate record, inventories continue in separate volume.

Copartnership Inventory and Appraisement Record, 1877–1901, 1 v.; 1902–date, 1 v.

Copartnership Liability Record, 1911–date, 1 v. (1)

Inventory Record, 1869–date, 6 v. (16–21)

Guardians' Inventory Record, 1872–date, 2 v. (A–B)

Appraisement Record, 1870–date, 7 v. (16–22)

Record of Sales: Public Sale, 4 v. (16–19), to date; Private Sale, 2 v. (19–20), to date.

REPORT RECORDS, ETC.

Administrators' and Executors' Account Current, 1869–1880, 2 v. (A–B)

Report Record of Administrators and Executors, 5 v. (C–G), to date.

Administrators' and Executors' Ledger, 3 v. (B–D), to 1905.

Estate Ledger, 1854–1857, 1 v.

Guardians' and Conservators' Account Current, 1870 *et seq.*, 1 v. (A)

Conservators' Report Record, 1907–date, 1 v. (A)

Guardians' Report Record, 1874–date, 7 v. (B–H)

This is a continuation from v. A of Guardians' and conservators' account current.

Insolvency Record, "Exhibit A," 1883–date, 1 v. (1)

Liabilities and assets of estate, order of court, or order of insolvency are recorded.

Widows' Relinquishment and Selection Record, 1870–date, 5 v. (A–E)

Proceedings on Petition to Sell Real Estate to Pay Debts, 1870–date, 3 v. (1–3)

This is a printed form.

Proceedings on Petition to Sell Real Estate to Pay Debts, 1870–date, 2 v. (1–2)

These are longhand volumes.

Proceedings on Guardians' Petition for Sale of Real Estate, 1872–date, 1 v. (A); 1874–date, 1 v. (2)

The first volume contains printed forms; the second, longhand forms.

Clerk of the Circuit Court

CIRCUIT COURT RECORDS

Circuit Court Record: Common Law, 1821–date, 16 v. (A–P); Criminal, 1870–date, 5 v. (1–5); Chancery, etc., 1838–date, 44 v. (A–F, 6–43)

After v. 19, partition, divorce, etc. are kept in separate volumes of the chancery record, though all follow consecutive numbers. Prior to 1870 criminal records were kept with common law.

Record of Defaults and Confessions, 1858–1898, 1 v. (A)

Default Record, 1870–date, 2 v. (1–2)

Circuit Court Files (common law, criminal, and chancery), 1829–date, 320 f.b.

All the cases are filed together.

Index to Files, 1840–date, 2 v.

Naturalization Record: Declaration of Intention, 1851–1896, 2 v.; Final Certificate, 1851–1882, 2 v.

Tax Sale [Judgment] Record, 1840–1849, 1 v.

DOCKETS, FEE BOOKS, ETC.

Judges' Dockets, 1840–date.

Clerks' Dockets, 1841–1842, 1848–1850, 1851–1853, 1860–1862, 1863–1865, 1870–date.

Common Law Docket, 1883–1887, 1 v.

This is labeled "General Docket."

Judgment and Execution Docket, 1877–date, v. 5 and 6, 6 and 7, 8.

Volumes 5 and 6 are judgment and execution docket respectively; v. 6 and 7 are judgment and execution combined.

Execution Docket, 1839–1849, 1850–1859, 2 v.
Docket of Execution and Subpœnas, 1838–1842, 1 v.
Sheriffs' Returns on Executions, 1842–1870, 1 v.
Mechanics' Lien Index (docket), 1888–date, 1 v. (1)
Naturalization Docket, 1870–1885, 1 v. (A)
Circuit Court Fee Book, 1826–date; 1912–date, 9 v. (2, 3, 5, 9–10, 13–16)
Transcript Record, 1857–date, 2 v. (2–4)

Circuit Clerk—Recorder

DEED AND MORTGAGE RECORDS

Entry Book: Deeds and Mortgages, 1820–1877, 11 v., in basement vault; Mortgages, 1836–1845, 1856–1877, 3 v., in basement vault; Deeds and Mortgages, 1877–date, 9 v. (4–12)
Deed Record, 1820–date, 176 v.

Beginning with 1866 separate volumes are assigned for quit claim, tax, administrators', warranty, masters', release, bond for deed, executors' deeds. Deed records are numbered consecutively as above shown.

Trust Deed Record, 1866-1893, 5 v. (1–5)
Mortgage Record, 1847–date, 63 v. (1–63)
Index to Marginal Releases and Assignments, 1905–date, 1 v. (1)
Index to Tracts and Town Lots: Tracts, 1822–date, 9 v.; Town Lots, 1835–date, 4 v.
Town and Township Plats, 1 v. of each.
Chattel Mortgage Record, 1866–date, 55 v. (1–55)
Chattel Mortgage Renewal Record, 1892–1905, 1 v. (1)
Chattel Mortgage Index, 1884–date, 3 v. (1–3)

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Record of Masters' Certificate of Sale, 1886–date, 1 v.
Record of Certificates of Levy, Sale, and Redemption, 1862–date, 2 v. (A–B)
Record of Certificates of Purchase and Redemption, 1852–1900, 2 v.

Surveyors' Record, 1834–date, 9 v.
Transcript of Land Entries, as reported by the state auditor, 1817–1857, 1 v.
Soldiers' Discharge Record, 1865–1902, 1 v. (1)
Odd Fellows' Trustee Record, 1909–date, 1 v. (1)
Stallion Register, 1910–date, 1 v. (1); Renewals, 1911–date, 1 v.
Miscellaneous Record, 1853–date, 7 v. (1–7)
Affidavits for Tax Liens [?], 1889–1906, 1 v.

POPE COUNTY[1]

Pope county was set off from Johnson and Gallatin in 1816; the county seat is Golconda. The courthouse is brick with inner walls of lath and plaster and floors and casings of wood. The building, therefore, is not fireproof. However, it is located in a public square and has excellent vaults. These are 9 x 18 x 12 feet, with walls 3 feet thick, concrete floors, vaulted stone ceilings, and double steel doors. The book records are arranged on end on wooden shelves; the files are in tin filingboxes.

County Clerk

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' AND SUPERVISORS' RECORDS

County Commissioners' Court Record, 1816–date, 13 v. (A–N, v. J not used)

The volumes contain records of ferry and tavern licenses, record of filing of road petitions, and appointments of supervisors and road viewers, with their reports. There is also a list of grand and petit jurors, claims paid, etc., lists of persons subject to road labor (1816–1840), ferry and tavern rates, and boundaries of road districts.

County Commissioners' Papers, 1816–date.

The papers contain: petitions for roads and bridges; reports of supervisors of the poor, specifications for county jail and courthouse; bills filed against county, etc. These papers are tied up in stout manila wrappers and arranged on shelf. From 1850 they are labeled by years.

Register of Road Officers, 1888–date, 1 v. (A)

Names of road supervisors, commissioners, etc. are registered.

Apprenticeship Indentures, 1831–date, 2 f.b.

Bonds for Support of Emancipated Slaves, 1835–1853, 1 f.b.

COUNTY COURT RECORDS

County Court Record, 1872–date, 6 v. (1, A–E)

Index to County Court Record, 3 v. each for plaintiff and defendant.

County Court Files (common law and criminal), 1872–date.

[1] Examined April, 1912.

All except the current files are filed in stout manila filingboxes by year and arranged on shelves in vault.

Naturalization Record, 1888–1896, 1 v.

The volume includes declaration of intention and final certificate.

Insanity Record, 1889–1893, 1 v. (1)

Judges' Docket (common law and criminal), 1874–1876, 1 v. (A); 1883–1889, 1 v. (U); 1898–date, 2 v. (P–Q)

Execution Docket, 1872–1884, 1 v. (A)

Judgment and Execution Docket, 1885–date, 2 v. (B–C)

County Court Fee Book (common law and criminal), 1872–date, 6 v. (A–F)

TAXATION RECORDS

Assessment and Statement of Taxes, 1887–date, 3 f.b.

Taxable Lands, 1829, 1 v.

This contains a list of lands in Pope county taxable in 1829, giving date of entry, patentee, present owner, number of acres, and description. The volume is 8 x 13 inches.

School Plat Record, 1885–1909, 1 v. (2)

Docket of School Rates and Taxes, 1885–date, 1 v. (B)

Value of real and personal property in the various districts and rate of tax levied are docketed.

Assessors' Books, 1857–date.

Collectors' Books, 1853, 1860–date.

Tax Judgment Record, 1840–1879, 4 v.

Tax Sale Record, 1840–1854, 1 v.; 1866–1879, 2 v.

Record of Forfeited Lands, 1872–1879, 2 v.

Tax Judgment, Sale, Redemption, and Forfeiture Record, 1880–date, 6 v.

Record of Affidavits for Tax Deeds, 1873–date, 6 v. (A–F)

RECORDS OF VITAL STATISTICS

Marriage Record, 1822–date, 6 v. (A–F)

Volumes A–D, 1822–1876, contain names of parties, date of license and marriage, name of person officiating; volumes E–F, 1877–date, give ages of parties also.

Marriage Register, 1877–date, 2 v. (A–B); Index, 1 v. for male and female.

The board of health form is used.

Record of Applications for Marriage License, 1882–date, 3 v.
Register of Births, 1877–date, 2 v. (1–2); Index, 1 v.
Register of Deaths, 1877–date, 2 v. (1–2); Index, 1 v.
Marriage Licenses, 1816–date.
Birth Reports, 1877–date.
Death Reports, 1877–date.

Marriage licenses, and birth and death reports are tied in manila folders, labeled, dated, and arranged on shelves in vault.

Record of Physicians' Certificates, 1877–date, 1 v.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Poll Books, Tally Sheets, and Abstract of Votes, 1816–1892, 1894–date.

Election papers prior to 1894 are tied in stout manila covers, labeled and arranged on shelves in vault. They are in good condition and easily accessible. The later ones are in filingboxes.

Assessors' Bond Record, 1899–date, 1 v. (1)
Justices' and Constables' Bond Record, 1873–date, 3 v. (A–C)
Register of Commissions, 1858–date, 2 v. (1–2)

This is a register of county officers elected or appointed, giving dates of election, etc.

Estray Book, 1863–1880, 1 v.
Militia Roll Record, 1862, 1 v. (A)
Census of Pensioners for Revolutionary or [other(?)] Military Services, 1841, 1 v.
Record of Pedigrees, 1900–1908, 1 v.

This is a register of thoroughbred stock.

School Commissioners' Record, 1852–1855, 1 v.

This is a record of lands sold and of money loaned.

County Clerk—Probate

PROBATE COURT RECORDS

Probate Record, September, 1819–April, 1832, 1 v. (A)

The volume is 8 x 13 inches with cardboard back. It contains copies of wills, letters of administration, reports, and settlements, etc.

Probate Record, August, 1821–July, 1823, September, 1832–January, 1835, 1 v. (B)

Contents: wills, letters, bonds, inventories, appraisements, current accounts, etc. Volume is labeled "Probate Record B."

Probate Record, February, 1838–June, 1841, 2 v. (C–D)

These volumes are labeled "Probate Record" and contain record of suits to collect debts and claims, etc., and orders of court.

Probate Record, May, 1841–October, 1857, 3 v. (E–G)

The record includes record of claims allowed, letters and bonds, etc. of administrators and guardians, appraisement and sale bills, settlements of administrators, wills, etc.

Probate Court Record, November, 1857–date, 19 v. (H–Z)

Court orders, decrees, record of adjustment of claims, final settlements, appointment of guardians, petitions to sell real estate, and report of sale, etc. are recorded.

Probate Files, 1816–date, 283 f.b.

The series includes estate and guardianship papers.

DOCKETS AND FEE BOOKS

Probate Judges' Docket, 1886–1893, 1 v.; 1903–date, 2 v.

Probate Judgment Docket, 1859–date, 4 v. (A–D)

Guardians' Estate Docket, 1883–1909, 1 v. (B)

Probate Fee Book, 1819–1845, 1 v.; 1858–1870, 1 v.; 1866–date, 6 v. (A–F)

RECORDS OF WILLS, BONDS, AND LETTERS

Will Record, 1862–date, 1 v. (A)

Administrators' and Guardians' Bond Record, 1858–1871, 1 v. (B)

This contains administrators' bonds and letters, 1858–1865, and guardians' bonds and letters, 1858–1871.

Administrators' Record, 1866–date, 4 v. (C–F)

Executors' Record, 1860–date, 3 v. (A–C)

Guardians' Record, 1871–date, 5 v. (C–G)

Miscellaneous Bond Record, 1889–date, 1 v.

Bonds, etc. of administrators de bonis non and with will annexed are included.

Real Estate Bond Record, 1886–date, 1 v. (B)

This contains additional bonds of administrators, given when real estate is sold.

INVENTORIES, APPRAISEMENTS, SALE BILLS, ETC.

Appraisement, Inventory, and Sale Bill Record, 1858–1871, 2 v. (A–B)

Inventory Record, 1875–date, 4 v. (C–F)

Guardians' Inventory Record, 1872–date, 1 v.
Appraisement Record, 1874–date, 5 v. (C–G)
Sale Record, 1873–date, 3 v. (C–E)
Administrators' Report Record, 1880–date, 3 v. (A–C)
Guardians' Report Record, 1887–date, 3 v. (B–D)
Estate Ledger, 1862–1868, 1 v. (1); 1869–date, 4 v. (A–D)

The contents are: amount of appraisement and sale bills, amount paid out for claims, and to widow and heirs, etc.

Insolvent Estate Record, 1884–date, 1 v. (A)

This contains administrator's certificate that estate is insolvent and his request to be discharged.

Widows' Relinquishment and Selection Record, 1882–date, 2 v. (A–B)

Clerk of the Circuit Court

CIRCUIT COURT RECORDS

Circuit Court Record, 1818–date, 18 v. (A–R)
Index to Court Record, 1858–date, 2 v. each for plaintiff and defendant.
Circuit Court Files, 1818–1858, in bundles on top shelf in vault; 1859–date, 252 f.b.
Judges' Docket, 1860–date, 10 v. (A–J)
Judgment Docket, 1819–1882, 3 v.
Execution Docket, 1818–1882, 3 v.
Judgment and Execution Docket, 1882–date, 2 v.
Fee Book, 1825–1837, 2 v. (8 x 13 inches); 1858–1862, 2 v.; 1862–date, 17 v. (A–Q)

The first part of the first volume was used as an account book by one Josiah Bassett who appears to have been a tanner and shoemaker.

Justice of the Peace Transcript Record, 1849–1859, 1 v.; 1860–date, 1 v. (A)

Circuit Clerk—Recorder

DEED AND MORTGAGE RECORDS

Entry Book, 1869–date, 4 v. (A–D)
Deed Record, 1816–date, 53 v. (A–Z, 1–27)

The early volumes contain many sale bills, slavery indentures, etc., besides deeds and mortgages.

Mortgage Record, 1861–date, 31 v. (A–Z, 1–5)

General Index, 1816–date, 5 v. (A–E) each for grantor and grantee.

Chattel Mortgage Record, 1877–date, 20 v. (G–Z)

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Land Entry Book, c. 1816–1856, 1 v.

Sheriffs' Certificate Record, 1867–1873, 1 v. (A)

Census of United States, 1840.

Compendium of Sixth Census, United States (1840)

Soldiers' Discharge Record, 1835–1851, 1 v.; 1865 *et seq*, 1 v.

The first volume contains records of services in wars, 1812–1851, entitling veterans to pensions.

Stallion Register, 1910–date, 1 v.; Renewals, 1911–date, 1 v.

PULASKI COUNTY[1]

Pulaski county was set off from Johnson and Alexander in 1843; the county seat is Mound City. At the time when the records of the county were examined, a new courthouse was being erected. The records of the county clerk were destroyed by fire in 1860.

County Clerk

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' AND SUPERVISORS' RECORDS

County Commissioners' Record, December, 1860–date, 4 v. (C–F)

County Commissioners' Papers, 1880–date, 30 p.h.

Jury List, 1872–date, 1 v.

Railroad Bond Register, 1872, 1 v.

This contains a list of railroad bonds issued by the county, giving date and amount of bond, to whom issued, when due, where payable, rate of interest, and date cancelled.

COUNTY COURT RECORDS

County Court Record, 1872–date, 5 v. (A–E)

County Court Files, 1872–date: Common Law and Criminal, 16 p.h.; Insanity, 2 p.h.; Adoption, 1 p.h.

Drainage Papers, Big Creek District, 1898–date, 2 f.b.

The papers include assessment rolls, plats of canal, list of lands affected, etc.

Naturalization Record, 1874–1906, 2 v. (A–B)

Judges' Docket (common law and criminal), 1872–date, 3 v. (A–C)

County Court Fee Book, 1872–date, 3 v.

TAXATION RECORDS

Road and School Plat Record, 1872–date, 1 v.

This contains plats of road and school districts.

Assessors' Books, 1907–date.

Collectors' Books, 1868–date.

[1] Examined May, 1912.

Railroad Tax Book, 1873–1883, 1 v.; 1892–date, 1 v.
Tax Judgment Record, 1868–1879, 5 v.
Tax Sale and Redemption Record, 1866–1880, 5 v.
Tax Judgment, Sale, Redemption, and Forfeiture Record, 1881–date, 9 v.
Record of Affidavits for Tax Deeds, 1870–date, 5 v. (A–E)
The affidavits themselves are tied up in two paper boxes in vault.

RECORDS OF VITAL STATISTICS

Marriage Register, 1861–1903, 1 v. (1)
Date of license, name of man and woman, date of marriage and by whom performed are recorded.
Register of Marriages, December, 1903–date, 1 v. (1)
Board of health form.
Record of Applications for Marriage License, 1904–date, 6 v.
Marriage Licenses, 1895–date, 2 p.h.
Register of Births and Deaths: Births, 1883–August, 1910; Deaths, 1883–August, 1910; Still Births, 1883–date.
All three records are in two volumes.
Register of Births, 1910–date, 1 v. (3)
Register of Deaths, 1910–date, 1 v. (3)
Birth Reports, 1895–date, 2 p.h.
Death Reports, 1895–date, 2 p.h.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Register of Commissions, 1843–date, 1 v.
County Surveyors' Record, 1855–1886, 1 v.
This contains plats, surveys, and field notes.

County Clerk—Probate

PROBATE COURT RECORDS

Probate Court Record, 1861–1882, v. A, C; 1890–date, 3 v. (F–H)
Petitions presented, reports filed in court, claims, proof of wills, petitions to sell real estate, copies of wills, etc. are kept in this series.
Probate Files, 1860–date, 30 p.h.

RECORDS OF WILLS, BONDS, AND LETTERS

Will Record, 1898–date, 1 v. (A)
One page contains printed form for court record of petition for probate

of will, and record of probate of will; the other page is left blank for a longhand record of will.

Administrators', Executors', and Guardians' Record, 1860, *et seq.*, 1 v. (A)

This contains administrators' bonds and letters, 1860–1867; executors' and guardians' bonds and letters, 1860–1870. In case of administrators and executors one page is taken up with record of petition for letters and proof of death. The other page contains bonds and letters. In case of guardians, all is put on one page.

Administrators' Record, 1867–date, 3 v. (B–D)

Executors' Record, 1880–date, 1 v. (C)

Guardians' Record, 1870–date, 3 v. (B–D)

DOCKETS AND FEE BOOKS

Probate Judges' Docket, 1881–date, 6 v. (D–I)

Probate Estate Docket, 1860–1865, 1 v. (A)

Probate Fee Book, 1861–date, 7 v. (A–G)

INVENTORIES, APPRAISEMENTS, AND SALE BILLS

Inventory, Appraisement, and Sale Record, 1 v. (A)

The contents are: inventories, 1861–1871; appraisements, 1861–1867; sale record, 1861–1870.

Inventory Record, 1871–date, 2 v. (B–C)

Guardians' Inventory Record, 1886–1907, 1 v. (1)

Appraisement Record, 1867–date, 2 v. (B–C)

There are two pages to each estate; one contains appraisement bill, the other the oath, warrant to appraisers and record of filing report.

Sale Bill Record, 1872–1907, 1 v. (B)

REPORT RECORDS, ETC.

Report Record, 1871–date, 2 v. (A–B)

Widows' Relinquishment and Selection Record, 1874–1907, 1 v.

Guardians' Real Estate Sale Record, 1882–1902, 1 v. (A)

This contains record of filing of petition in court, copy of petition describing property to be sold, and report of sale and court order confirming the same.

Clerk of the Circuit Court

CIRCUIT COURT RECORDS

Circuit Court Record, 1844–date, 19 v.

From 1844 to 1900 common law, chancery, and criminal records were kept in same volume; since 1900 they have been kept in separate volumes which are numbered consecutively.

Circuit Court Files, 1844–date, 134 p.h.

These files are arranged alphabetically; all cases, common law, chancery, or criminal, beginning with a certain letter are filed together.

Index to Court Record, 1858–date, 3 v. each for plaintiff and defendant.

DOCKETS, FEE BOOKS, ETC.

Judges' Docket, 1860–date, 14 v. (2–15)

Judgment Docket, 1860–1895, 2 v.

Execution Docket, 1859–1895, 2 v.

Judgment and Execution Docket, 1896–date, 1 v. (A)

Docket of Mechanics' Liens, 1887–date, 1 v.

Fee Book, 1850–date, c. 15 v.

Justice of the Peace Transcript Record, 1861–date, 1 v.

Circuit Clerk—Recorder

Entry Book, 1894–date, 3 v. (2–4)

Deed and Mortgage Record, 1843–date, 100 v.

Up to 1867 deeds, mortgages, chattel mortgages, etc. were recorded together. Since that time they are in separate volumes, which are numbered consecutively in one series.

Release Record, 1892–date, 1 v. (1)

General Index, 1872–date, 5 v. each for grantor and grantee.

Record of Sheriffs' Certificates of Sale and Redemption, 1864–date, 1 v. (A)

School Treasurers' Bond Record, 1890–date, 1 v. (1)

Stallion Register, 1910–date, 1 v.; Renewals, 1911–date, 1 v.

PUTNAM COUNTY[1]

Putnam county was organized in 1831 from Jo Daviess and Peoria; a previous county of similar name created in the same region in 1825 was never organized; the county seat is Hennepin. The courthouse is old and not fireproof. The vaults are of brick with iron double doors and cement floors, iron filing material and iron fixtures. The circuit clerk's vault is overcrowded, but practically all the records are in it. The county clerk has a second and smaller vault. In both offices the records are well arranged. The county clerk's miscellaneous files are extensive and well indexed.

County Clerk

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' AND SUPERVISORS' RECORDS

County Commissioners' Record, 1831–1834, 1 v.; 1845–1852, 1 v.

County Commissioners' and Supervisors' Record, 1836–date, 7 v. (C–I)

Records and Plats of Roads, 1842–1871, 1 v.

Register of County Orders, 1844–1863, 1 v.; 1877–date, 3 v.

Files of County Bills, 1831–1903, c. 24 f.b.

County Orders, 1872–date, 13 f.b.

Road Papers, 1831–1870, 5 f.b.

Tavern and Ferry Bonds, c. 1831–1850.

Jury List, 1872–date, 1 v.

COUNTY COURT RECORDS

County Court Record, 1872–date, 1 v.; Defaults, 1872, 1 v., two entries.

County Court Files (common law and criminal), 1872–date, 5 f.b.

Index to county court and probate papers, 1 v.

Voluntary Assignment Record, 1891–1896, 1 v.

Insanity Record, 1893–date, 1 v.

There are separate parts for jury and commission trials.

Insane and Conservators' Record, 1870–1906, 1 v.

[1] Examined April, 1914.

Naturalization Record, 1886–1906, 1 v.; 1903–1906, 1 v.
Judges' Docket (common law), 1872–1873, 1 v.; 1872–1875, 1907–date, 1 v.; 1908–date, 1 v.
Bar Docket, 1872–1874, 1 v.
Clerks' Docket, 1872–1894, 1 v.
Judgment Docket, 1872–date, 1 v.
Execution Docket, 1872–date, 1 v.
Insanity Docket, 1894–date, 1 v.
County Court Fee Book: Common Law, 1872–1907, 1 v.; Common Law and Criminal, 1906–date, 2 v.
Insane and Conservators' Fee Book, 1894–date, 1 v.
Insane and Miscellaneous Fee Book, 1910–date, 1 v.

TAXATION RECORDS

Abstract of Assessments or Aggregate Footings, 1878–date, 4 v.
Abstract of Assessment and Taxes, 1891–1899, 1 v.
Docket of Rates and Amounts Wanted, 1876–1902, 1 v.
Tax Levies [Certificates of Levy], 1840–date, 6 f.b.
School District Record and Record of School Taxes, 1848–1857, 1 v.
Record of Equalized Value and Taxes of School Districts, 1891–date, 1 v.
School Plats, 1859–date, 1 v.
Entries of Conveyances, 1872, 1 v.
Road Tax Lists, 1831–1840, paper folios; 1885–date, 6 f.b.
Railroad Assessments, 1873–date, 4 f.b.
Assessors' Books and Collectors' Books (paper folios), 1831–1845.
Assessors' Books, 1840, 1 v.; 1849–date.
Collectors' Books, 1846–date.
Railroad Tax Book, 1858–date, 5 v.
Minutes of Board of Review, 1899–date, 1 v.
Board of Review Complaint Docket, 1899–date, 1 v.
Record of Refunding of Illegal State Tax of 1873, 1 v.
Delinquent Lists, 1833–1840, paper folios; 1857–1860, 1 v.; 1862, 1 v.; 1873–1878, 1 v.; 1880, 1 v.
Tax Judgment Record, 1862–1880, 1 v.
Tax Sale Record, 1834–1844, 1 v.; 1848–1878, 2 v.
Tax Sale and Redemption Record, 1878–1880, 1 v.

Tax Judgment, Sale, and Redemption Record, 1881–date, 3 v.
Record of Affidavits for Tax Deeds, 1850–1887, 2 v.; 1900–date, 1 v.
Certificates of Purchase (at tax sale), 1833–1890, 3 f.b.
County Treasurers in Account with County, 1875–date, 1 v.
County Collectors in Account with County, 1877–date, 1 v.

RECORDS OF VITAL STATISTICS

Register of Births, and Deaths, and Marriages, 1878–1910, 3 v.
Contents: birth register, 1878–1893, death register, 1878–1910, marriage register, 1878–1900.
Register of Marriages, 1901–date, 1 v.
Marriage Register, 1831–1879, 1 v.
Marriage Licenses, 1831–1907, *et seq.*, 7 f.b.
Record of Applications for Marriage License, 1877–date, 6 v.
Register of Births, 1894–1912, 1 v.; 1910–date, 1 v.
Register of Still Births, 1878–date, 1 v.
Register of Deaths, 1910–date, 1 v.
Birth Reports and Death Reports, 1880–1900, 3 f.b.
Record of Physicians' Certificates, 1877–date, 1 v.
Record of Physicians, Accoucheurs, Dentists, etc., 1 v., current.
Register of Physicians and Accoucheurs, 1877–date, 1 v.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Election Returns and Poll Books, 1831–c. 1890, 7 f.b.
Poll Book of Election in Hennepin, 1837.
The election was held to elect trustees and to levy a town tax.
Justices' of the Peace and Constables' Bond Record, 1873–date, 1 v.
Record of County Officers' Bonds, 1877–date, 1 v.
Assessor and Supervisor of Assessment Bond Record, 1898–date, 1 v.
Register of County Officers, 1857–date, 1 v.
Register of Justice of the Peace and Constables, 1831–1858, 1 v.
Record of Estrays, 1855–1905, 2 v.
Estray Papers, 1832–1870.
Record of Marks and Brands, 1831–1892, 1 v.
Militia Roll Record, 1861–1863, 1 v.
Miscellaneous Record, 1895–date, 1 v., both county and probate.
Record of Miscellaneous Papers, 1874–1877, 1 v.

Reports of Overseer of Poor, 1874–date, 2 f.b.
Financial Reports of County Treasurer, County Clerk, Circuit Clerk, Sheriff, 1878–date.
County Clerks' Record of Receipts and Expenditures, 1873–date, 1 v.
County Clerks' Accounts for Births and Deaths, 1902–date, 1 v.
Swamp Land Record, 1857[?]–1888, 1 v.; Papers, 1850–1860.
School Commissioners' Record, c. 1833–1841, 1 v.
School Commissioners' Reports and Papers, c. 1833–1862, 3 f.b.
Articles of Hennepin Union Seminary and names of stockholders, 1856.
Justice of the Peace Docket, 1835–1860, 3 v.; 1849–1860, 1 v.; 1853–1859, 1 v.
Treasurers' Accounts, 1840–1860, 1 v.
Index to papers in vaults, 2 v.

County Clerk—Probate

PROBATE COURT RECORDS

Probate Court Record, 1831–1838, 2 v.; 1838–1851, 1 v. (D), labeled "Court Order Book."
Judicial County Court Record, 1851–1861, 1 v.
This contains probate orders, estate ledger, etc.
Probate Journal, 1861–date, 8 v. (F–M)
Record of Verbal Testimony in Proof of Wills, 1899–1911, 1 v.
Application for Probate of Will, 1901–date, 1 v.
Probate Record, 1857–1884, 1 v. (2)
Record of Probate Papers, 1851–1887, 1 v.
Bonds, reports, etc. are included.
Probate Files: Estates, 1831–date, 62 f.b.; Guardians, 1834–date, 11 f.b.; Conservators 1870[?]–date, 4 f.b.; Index, 1 v.
General Probate Index, 1 v.

DOCKETS AND FEE BOOKS

Probate Judges' Docket, 1896–date, 5 v. (1–5)
Probate Estate Docket, 1831–date, 1 v.
Probate Judgment Docket, 1859–date, 2 v.
Direct Index to Probate Judgment Docket, 1 v.

Docket of Probate Settlements Due, 1857–1881, 1 v.

The docket lists: estate, name of administrator, executor or guardian, postoffice, date of letters, annual reports due, final report due, notice of reports sent, annual reports approved, final report approved.

Guardians' Docket, 1834–date, 1 v.

Probate Fee Book, 1837–1850, 1 v.; 1852–1860, 1 v.; 1860–date, 4 v. (A–D)

Administrators' and Executors' Fee Book, 1909–date, 1 v.

Guardians' and Conservators' Fee Book, 1910–date, 1 v. (BB)

RECORDS OF WILLS, BONDS, AND LETTERS

Will Record, 1884–date, 1 v. (3); 1894, 1 v. (4); 1898–date, 2 v. (T,U)

Record of Affidavits of Notice for Creditors to Appear, 1880–date, 1 v.

Administrators' Record (with separate place for will annexed), 1859–date, 2 v. (A–B)

Record of Petitions for Letters of Administration, 1872–date, 1 v.

Executors' Record, 1859–date, 1 v.

Conservators' Record, 1889–date, 1 v.

Guardians' Record, 1859–date, 1 v.

Record of Miscellaneous Probate Bonds and Letters, 1878–date, 1 v.

INVENTORIES, APPRAISEMENTS, AND SALE BILLS

Record of Appraisements, etc., 1838–1847, 1 v.; 1847–1851, 1 v. (D2)

Sale bills, appraisements, etc. are included.

Inventory, Appraisement, and Sale Record, 1863–1874, 1 v.

This is a ten-page printed form.

Inventory Record, 1874–date, 2 v.

Guardians' Inventory Record, 1873–date, 1 v.

Appraisement Record, 1899–1909, 1 v. (D); 1909–date, 1 v. (B)

Appraisement and Sale Record, 1874–1894, 1 v.

Sale Record, 1892–date, 1 v.

REPORT RECORDS, ETC.

Probate Ledger, 1850–1870, 1 v.

Estate Ledger, 1870–1907, 2 v. (B–C)

Guardians' Ledger, 1863–1874, 1 v.; 1880–1904, 1 v.

Conservators' Ledger, 1884–1902, 1 v.
Report Record, 1870–date, 4 v. (A–D)
Guardians' Report Record, 1893–date, 1 v.
Administrators' and Executors' and Guardians' Accounts, 1849–1858, 1 v.
Widows' Award and Selection Record, 1910–1912, 1 v.
Sale of Real Estate Record, 1895–1910, 1 v.
This also contains widows' relinquishment and selection, 1882–1909.

Clerk of the Circuit Court

CIRCUIT COURT RECORDS

Circuit Court Record, 1831–1839, 2 v.; 1840–date, 12 v.; 1837–1854, 1 v. (chancery)
Index to Plaintiff and Defendant, 1857–date, 1 v. of each.
Tax Judgment Record, 1840–1848, 1 v.
Circuit Court Files, 1832–date, 110 f.b.
Naturalization Record: Final Certificate, 1854–1880, 1 v.; Declaration of Intention, 1858–1881, 1 v.; Declaration and Final Certificate, 1882–1904, 1 v.; Soldiers and Minors, 1865–1880, 1 v.
Naturalization Papers, 1836–date, 4 f.b.

DOCKETS AND FEE BOOKS

General Docket, 1896–date, 1 v.
Judges' Docket, 1858–1907, 8 v.
Court Docket, 1836–1840, 2 v.; 1846–1858, 5 v.
Bar Docket, 1849–1867, 6 v.; 1870–1871, 1 v.; 1874–date, 2 v.
Dockets, 1834–1844, 1851, paper folios.
Clerks' Docket, 1849–1851, 2 v.; 1853–1857, 1 v.; 1862–1867, 1 v.; 1870–1874, 1 v.; 1874–1911, 5 v.
Docket, 1832–1840, 1 v.
Judgment Docket, 1833–1858, 1 v.; 1839–1856, 1 v.; 1859–date, 1 v.
Execution Docket, 1832–date, 3 v.
Docket of Mechanics' Liens, 1888–date, 1 v.
Naturalization Docket, 1852–1857, 1 v.
Fee Book, 1831–date, 12 v. (D–L)
The first three volumes unlettered.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Justice of the Peace Transcript Record, 1848–date, 3 v. (A–C)
Record of Foreign Transcripts, 1899–date, 1 v.
Record of States Attorneys' Reports, 1873–date, 1 v.
Circuit Clerks' Register of Fees, 1873–date, 2 v.
Miscellaneous Papers, 7 f.b.
Minute Book, 1838–1843, 1 v.

Circuit Clerk—Recorder

DEED AND MORTGAGE RECORDS

Entry Book, 1832–date, 13 v. (1–13)
Deed Record, 1831–1835, 2 v. (A–B)
Mortgage Record, 1842–1857, 2 v. (A–B)
Deed and Mortgage Record, 1835–date, 69 v. (C–U, 25–75)
Plat Record, 1874–date.
Record of Plats, 1901–date, 1 v.
Grantor and Grantee Index, 2 v. each.
Tract Index, 8 v.
Index to Release Deeds, 1905–date, 1 v.
Chattel Mortgage Record, 1854–date, 10 v. (1–10)

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Record of Sheriffs' Certificates of Levy, 1841–1880, 1 v.
Record of Certificates of Levy, Sale, and Redemption, 1876–date, 3 v.
Miscellaneous Record, 1873–date, 3 v. (1–3)
Original Entry Book, 1 v.
Record of United States Surveys (from W. H. Lawton), 1871, 1 v.
Surveyors' Field Notes, 1880 *et seq.*, by survey, 1 v. (A)
Surveyors' Note Book, 1868–1875, 2 v.
Surveyors' small plat book, 1836–1865, 3 v.; 1840–1855, 2 v.; 1870, 1 v.; n.d., 1 v.
These are all copied in one large volume.
Surveyors' Record, 1904–date, 1 v.
Record of Collectors' Bonds, 1888–date, 1 v.
Town Treasurers' Bond Record, 1890–date, 1 v.
Record of Soldiers' Discharges, 1865–1906, 1 v.
Stallion Register, 1911–date, 1 v.
Accounts of School Fund, 1847–1857, 1 v.

RANDOLPH COUNTY[1]

Randolph county was formed from St. Clair in 1795 and was enlarged in 1795, 1801 and 1803; the county seat is Chester. The record offices are in a fireproof building equipped with tin filing material and wooden shelves.

County Clerk

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' AND SUPERVISORS' RECORDS[2]

Record of County Court of Quarter Sessions, 1801–1803, 1 v.

This contains records relating to roads, taverns, ferries, bastardy cases, and petty offences; lists of jurors, road supervisors, tax collectors, etc.; specifications for county courthouse. Those present were John Edgar, Pierre Menard, Robert Reynolds, N. Hull, Robert McMahan, Pierre LeCount. This volume is in the circuit clerk's vault, and is 6 x 8 inches.

County Commissioners' [?] Court Record, July, 1803–January, 1810, 1 v., 6 x 8 inches.

This volume contains orders allowing claims, etc., establishing ferry and tavern rates, road districts, etc.; record of sale bills of estates, and apprenticeships of minors. It is in the circuit clerk's vault.

March, 1810–December, 1810, 1 v., 8 x 13 inches.

The volume is in the circuit clerk's vault.

County Commissioners and Court of Common Pleas, June, 1814–March, 1824, 1 v. 8 x 14 inches, indexed.

The records in this volume are partly of county business and partly miscellaneous probate records, such as letters, reports and settlements, etc. It is in the circuit clerk's office.

County Commissioners' Court Record, 1824–1849, 6 v., indexed.

The contents include orders, petitions for roads, reports of surveys of roads, etc., petitions for ferries, taverns, etc., tax rates, lists of jurors, record of road districts, and other miscellaneous county business.

County Court Record, 1849–1873, 3 v. (1, A–B)

County Commissioners' Court Record, 1873–date, 8 v. (C–J)

County Commissioners' Papers, 1879–date.

These are bundled up by terms in 40 bundles and placed in cupboard.

[1] Examined June, 1912.

[2] See also Circuit Court Records, *post*, 554.

"Register of Negroes Book B," 1804–1862, 1 v.

Contents: pp. 1–61 contain record of Negro slaves and bond servants brought into state, 1809–1811; pp. 105–274 contain records and proofs of free Negroes, 1820–1862.

Jury List, 1872–date, 1 v.

COUNTY COURT RECORDS

County Court Record (common law and criminal), 1872–date, 3 v.

County Court Files (common law and criminal), 1872–date.

These are tied in bundles, labeled by years, and placed in cupboard in vault. There are about fifty bundles.

Drainage Record, 1910–date, 1 v. (1)

This is a record of assessment and description of property in drainage and levee district no. 1.

Voluntary Insolvency Record, 1882–1899, 1 v. (1)

Insanity Record, 1893–date, 1 v. (1)

Naturalization Record: Declaration of Intention, 1866–1903, 1 v.; Soldiers' and Minors' Final Papers, 1866–1899, 1 v. (A); Final Certificate of Naturalization, 1866–1901, 1 v. (A)

Judges' Docket, 1872–date, 3 v.

Judgment Docket, 1872–date, 2 v. (1–2)

Execution Docket, 1872–date, 1 v. (1)

Insanity Docket, 1893–date, 1 v. (1)

County Court Fee Book, 1872–date, 5 v.

TAXATION RECORDS

Statement of Assessment and Taxes, 1891–date, 3 v.

Entry Book (no dates), 1 v.

The volume is 8 x 10 inches, leather bound, and not labeled. Patentees, name, location and description of land, and number of acres in tract are recorded.

Original Land Entry Book, c. 1815–1860, 1 v.

This is labeled "Original Record of Patents."

Assessors' Books, 1826–date, except for years 1830, 1834, 1836, and 1847.

Collectors' Books, 1837, 1841, 1850–date.

Railroad Tax Book, 1873–date, 4 v.

Board of Review Record, 1899–date, 1 v. (1)

Complaint Docket, Board of Review, 1899–date, 1 v. (1)
Tax Judgment Record, 1867–1880, 5 v. (A–E)
Tax Sale and Redemption Record, 1833–1860, 1865–1880, 9 v.
Record of Forfeited Lands, 1872–1879, 3 v. (A–C)
Back Tax and Forfeiture Record, 1880–date, 7 v.
Tax Judgment, Sale, Redemption, and Forfeiture Record, 1880–date, 6 v.
Record of Affidavits for Tax Deeds, 1871–date, 3 v. (A, 1–2)

RECORDS OF VITAL STATISTICS

"Marriage Record, June, 1809–September, 1822," 1 v., 8 x 13 inches, cardboard bound.

Pages 75–140 contain record of marriages, giving date of license and of marriage, name of man and woman, and by whom married. Pages 1–27 contain a register of Negroes and mulattoes brought into state, giving date, name of Negro, age, color, and sex; name of owner, from what place Negro was removed, for what period indentured, 1809–1837. Pages 27–67 contain record of marks and brands, 1809–1849. Pages 150–175 contain record of estray watercraft and animals, 1809–1849. Pages 200–224 contain certificates of freedom and manumissions, 1814–1825. On page 210 is a certificate of freedom and good character for Francis Booby drawn up by Andrew Jackson, 1817.

Record of Marriage Licenses [and Certificates], 1822–1839, 1 v.

This volume is 8 x 13 inches, and is not indexed. Pages 1–24 contain record of licenses granted, September, 1822–September, 1837, giving date and names of parties. Pages 25–87 contain copies of certificates of marriage. In the back of the volume about fifty pages are used for record of allowances by county commissioners, 1819–1836, giving amount, date, and to whom allowed.

"Marriage [License] Register," November, 1847–October, 1856, 1 v.

The volume is 8 x 13 inches. It shows the date and name of man and woman.

"Marriage Record, October, 1849–January, 1859," 1 v.

Volume is 8 x 13 inches, not indexed. It contains certificates of marriage.

Marriage Record, March, 1856–November, 1867, 2 v.

Contents: copy of license and marriage certificate.

Marriage Record, 1867–1878, 1 v. (C)

Date of license, name of man and of woman, date of marriage and person celebrating are registered.

Register of Marriages, 1878–date, 3 v. (D–F)

Board of health form.

Index to Marriage Register, 1878–date, 1 v. each for male and female.

Marriage Licenses, 1809–date.

These have been bundled up by years and placed in about fifty bundles in cupboard in vault.

Register of Births, 1877–date, 6 v. (1–6); Index, 1 v.

Register of Deaths, 1877–date, 3 v. (1–3); Index, 1 v.

Birth Reports and Death Reports, 1877–date.

These are bundled up by years in about fifteen bundles and placed in cupboard.

Record of Physicians' Certificates, 1877–date, 2 v. (1–2)

Register of Dentists, 1877–date, 1 v.

Architects' License Register, 1899–date, 1 v.

Register of Physicians and Accoucheurs, 1877–date, 1 v.

Abstract of Agricultural Statistics, 1878–1879, 1 v.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Justices' and Constables' Bond Record, 1873–date, 2 v. (A–B)

Record of Marks and Brands, 1849–1873, 1 v., indexed.[1]

"Record of the Names & Date of Bonds of County Officers, Justices & Constables," 1827–1865, 1 v.

Register of County Officers, 1861–date, 2 v. (1–2)

Estray Record, 1827–1866, 2 v.; 1866–date, 1 v.[2]

"Field Notes," 1877, 1 v.

This contains a description and plats of corners of sections and quarter sections, etc.

Plat Book, 1900–date, 2 v. (1–2)

Township Plat Book, 1865–1868, 1 v.

School Commissioners' Record, 1833–1857, 3 v. (A–C)

Record of sales of school lands, surveys and plats, list of voters petitioning for sale, etc. are included.

Dram Shop Bond Record, 1891–date, 1 v.

School Commissioners' Day Book, 1833–1856, 2 v. (A–B)

[1]For marks and brands 1809–1847, see Marriage record, A, 1809–1822, pp. 22–67.

[2]"Record of Estray Watercraft and Animals," 1809–1849 is in pp. 150–175 of Marriage record, 1809–1822.

The volume contains accounts of school funds, record of money loaned or invested, and of appropriation of school money.

Miscellaneous Record, 1870–date, 3 v. (1–3)

These are miscellaneous records for which no special form is provided.

County Clerk—Probate

PROBATE COURT RECORDS[1]

"Probate Court Record, Wills, Inventories, Sale Bills, etc.," August, 1809–January, 1825, 1 v.

Volume is 8 x 13 inches, and labeled.

Probate Court Record, May, 1820–April, 1832, 1 v.

Volume is 8 x 13 inches, indexed. It contains probate orders, record of filing of reports, settlements, etc., record of appointment of administrators, executors, etc., record of claims allowed, and other proceedings of the court.

Probate Order Book, 1832–1843, 1 v., indexed.[2]

The volume contains 317 p., 8 x 13 inches, and is labeled. Probate orders, record of filing reports, proofs of wills, appointment of executors, guardians, administrators, claims allowed, etc. are recorded. Pages 46–78 contain depositions establishing the identity of soldiers who served with George Rogers Clark, and information regarding their heirs.

Probate Order Book, 1844–1859, 3 v.

Record of orders and minutes of proceedings are included.

Probate Court Record, 1859–date, 24 v. (A–X)

Orders, decrees, minutes of proceedings, and reports filed in court, etc. are recorded.

Probate Files, 1796–date, 399 f.b.

[1] See also County Commissioners' Records, *ante*, 548, and Circuit Court Records, *post*, 554.

[2] In Probate court record, 1832-1843, p. 105, the following item is recorded.

Jarrett Wilkerson, a man of color vs. John Thaxton, a boy of color and an apprentice to said Jarrett Wilkerson	Whereas Jarrett Wilkerson a man of color, complains on oath that John Thaxton, a boy of color and his apprentice, did without any just cause,

on the 15th day of Sept. last, desert from the service of his master, the said Jarrett Wilkerson. It is therefore ordered that a warrant be issued in this case against the body of the said John Thaxton, and cause him to be brought before the court, to shew good cause why he deserted from the service of the said Jarrett Wilkerson, or in default of shewing good cause, that he be dealt with according to law.

DOCKETS AND FEE BOOKS

Probate Judges' Docket, 1895–date, 8 v. (N–U)
Estate Docket, 1859–1870, 1 v. (A)
Probate Estate Docket, 1869–date, 7 v. (B–H)
Probate Allowance Book, 1849–1865, 1 v.; 1864–1873, 1 v. (A)
The contents give date, to whom allowed, nature of claim and amount.
Probate Fee Book, 1864–date, 11 v. (A–K)

RECORDS OF WILLS, BONDS, AND LETTERS

"Wills & Letters to Executors & Administrators," 1826–1844, 1 v. (A)
Record of Wills, 1840–date, 9 v. (B–J)
Bonds of Executors and Administrators, 1829–1835, 1 v., 8 x 13 inches, indexed.
Letters of Administration, 1844–1848, 1 v.
Administrators' Letters, 1850–1859, 1 v.
Administrators' Record, 1859–date, 8 v. (A–H)
Executors' Record, 1850–date, 6 v. (1, A–E)
Conservators' Record, 1897–date, 1 v. (1)
"Letters of Guardianship, 1839–1849," 1 v. (B)
Guardians' Record, 1850–date, 7 v. (1, A–F)
Record of Miscellaneous Bonds and Letters, 1876–date, 2 v. (A–B)

INVENTORIES, APPRAISEMENTS, AND SALE BILLS

Record of Inventories, Appraisements, and Sale Bills, 1829–1835, 2 v., 8 x 13 inches, indexed; 1834–1844, 1 v., 6 x 15 inches, 213 p., indexed.
Inventory, Appraisement, and Sale Bill Record, 1859–1872, 6 v. (A–F)
Inventory Record, 1872–date, 6 v. (G–L)
Appraisement Record, 1872–date, 10 v. (G–P)
Sale Record, 1872–date, 5 v. (G–K)

REPORT RECORDS, ETC.

Administrators' Report Record, 1890–date, 4 v. (1–4)
Administrators' and Executors' Report Record, 1883–date, 4 v. (1–4)
Guardians' Report Record, 1883–date, 4 v. (1–4)

Accounts Current Record, 1849–1884, 10 v. (A–J)

Guardians' Accounts Current Record, 1882–1884, 1 v.

Probate Record, January, 1850–September, 1850, 1 v.

This contains a record of reports and settlements made.

Administrators' Accounts, 1850–1860, 1 v. (1)

Current accounts of administrators with estates are recorded.

Probate Ledger, 1860–1898, 6 v. (A–F)

Widows' Relinquishment and Selection Record, 1870–date, 6 v. (A–F)

Record of Decrees on Petitions to Sell Real Estate to Pay Debts, 1866–1878, 2 v. (A–B)

Record of Proceedings on Petitions to Sell Real Estate to Pay Debts, 1879–date, 2 v. (C–D)

Clerk of the Circuit Court

CIRCUIT COURT RECORDS

Court and Deed Record, 1768–1782, 1 v. (K)

The title is written in pencil on inside of cover; pp. 7–12 are missing, one cover is off, and many pages are loose. This is the record of the court at Fort de Chartres. The first clerk appears to have been Langlois, and the last Carbonneaux.

Record of the General Court of Common Pleas,[1] December, 1801–September, 1813, 9 v., indexed in part.

The records are very complete, giving true copy of all pleas together with execution and return.

Memoranda Book, Court of Common Pleas, Appearances, September, 1808–April, 1812, 1 v.; June, 1811–April, 1841, 1 v.

The first is an unbound, 54 p. book, 8 x 13 inches; the second is also unbound, 60 p., 8 x 13 inches.

Clerks' Docket, December, 1801–September, 1804, 1 folio unbound, 92 p., not labeled.

It contains style of cases and minutes thereon.

Clerks' Docket, September, 1809–December, 1810, 1 v., unlabeled.

The volume is paper bound, of about 50 p., 8 x 13 inches. It contains style of case and minutes of proceedings thereon, list of jurors, etc.

Record of Court of Common Pleas, April, 1810–September, 1813, 1 v.

[1] For early papers of court of common pleas see appendix, *post*, 557.

This volume contains 524 p., 8 x 14 inches, and is leather bound. Record of proceedings in court, giving the style of case and action, and record of appearance of parties, and order of court are included. The volume is labeled "Court Record 1810–13."

Record of Court of Common Pleas, March, 1811–April, 1814, 1 v., 6 x 8 inches.

The volume contains both county commissioners' and probate business.

Circuit Court Order Book, June, 1815–September, 1831, 2 v. (A–B), indexed.

The record gives title of case, minutes of proceeding and order of court. It does not give complete copies of the files as do the earlier records.

Circuit Court Record, 1832–date, 31 v. (A–Z, 1–5)

Up to March, 1877 (v. A–J), common law, chancery, and criminal records were kept together. From 1877 to date the records are in separate volumes, which are numbered consecutively.

Confession Record, 1899–date, 1 v. (1)

Partition Record, 1887–date, 2 v. (A–B)

Divorce Record, 1899–date, 1 v. (1)

Circuit Court Files, 1809–date, 474 f.b., in vault.

There is no index to files before 1860. In a dry goods box over the book shelves are found files of the court of common pleas dating 1796–1815. These consist of attorneys' bills in chancery, etc., pleas, executions and writs of various sorts. They were assorted and bundled chronologically by an employee of the state historical library.

Index to Court Records, 1858–date, 3 v. each for plaintiff and defendant.

Naturalization Record, 1862–1906, 5 v.

DOCKETS, FEE BOOKS, ETC.

Judges' Docket, 1856–date, 19 v.

Judgment Docket, 1827–1835, 1 v.; 1839–date, 6 v. (A–F)

Execution Docket, 1809–1839, 3 v.; 1839–date, 5 v. (A–E)

Lien Docket (docket of mechanics' liens), 1887–date, 1 v. (1)

Circuit Court Fee Book (chancery, common law, and criminal), 1899–date, 6 v.

Justice of the Peace Transcript Record, 1847–date, 3 v. (A–C)

States Attorneys' Report Record, 1889–date, 1 v.

Indictment Record, 1881–date, 2 v. (A–B)

Circuit Clerk—Recorder

DEED AND MORTGAGE RECORDS

Entry Book, January, 1850–January, 1854, 1 v.; 1874–date, 6 v. (A–F)

Deed Record, 1768–1807, 1 v., indexed.

This is a transcribed record of volumes G, I, J, and K.

Record of Deeds, Levy and Sale, etc., 1795–1803, 1 v.

The volume is 8 x 13 inches, unlabeled. Pages 1–39 contain deeds, 1795–1799; pp. 40–186, record of levy and sale of property by sheriff; pp. 187–236, deeds, Negro indentures, etc., 1801-1803.

Deed Record, c. 1793–1798, 1 v.

The volume is 8 x 14 inches and has both covers off. One edge has been gnawed by mice so that from one-eighth to one-fourth of each page is missing. The language is French and English. There is no label.

Record Book L, 1802, 1 v., indexed.

The volume contains deeds, records of sheriffs' levies and sales, miscellaneous wills, etc.

Deed Record L, 1 v., 8 x 13 inches, 172 p.

Contents: deeds, dated 1805.

Deed Record K, 1803–1805, 1 v.

The volume is 8 x 14 inches and has 260 p. Both covers are off, and several pages are torn. It contains deeds and records of levies and sales by sheriff.

Translation of the French Records of Randolph County, c. 1723–1802, 2 v. (1–2), indexed.

This is a copy of all records relating to real estate in volumes A–L. See act of February 14, 1855, *Private laws of 1855*, p. 677.

Deed Record, 1812–date, 115 v. (M–Z, AA–ZZ, 1–75), indexed.

Up to 1865 mortgages were kept with deeds; since then they have been recorded in separate volumes and in separate series. The miscellaneous records are kept in volumes to themselves after 1870, though the volumes are numbered consecutively with the deed records.

Real Estate Mortgage Record, 1865–date, 32 v. (1–32)

Mortgage Record, 1876–1886, 1 v. (1)

Trust Deed Record, 1865–1885, 4 v. (1–4)

Tax Deed Record, 1869–date, 3 v. (1–3)

Administrators' Deed Record, 1875–date, 2 v. (1–2)

Masters' Deed Record, 1874–date, 2 v. (1–2)

Commissioners' Deed Record, 1875–1886, 1 v. (1)

Index to Deeds, 1853–date, 10 v. (C–L), grantor and grantee.
Index to Mortgages, 1865–date, 6 v. (1–6)
Release Record, 1867–date, 6 v. (1–6)
Record of Leases, 1866–1892, 3 v. (1–3)
Index to Marginal Releases and Assignments, 1905–date, 1 v. (1)
Chattel Mortgage Record, 1865–date, 26 v. (1–26)

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Record of Masters' Certificates of Sale and Redemption, 1872–date, 2 v. (A–B)
Record of Sheriffs' Certificates of Levy and Sale, 1853–date, 3 v. (B–D)
Surveyors' Record, 1829–1877, 2 v. (A–B); 1885–date, 2 v. (A, 1)
Record of Certificate of Election of Trustees, 1873–date, 1 v. (A)
Township Treasurers' Bond Record, 1899–date, 1 v. (1)
Stallion Register, 1910–date, 2 v.
Records of the City Court of Sparta, August, 1869–October, 1870: Court Record, 1 v.; Judges' Docket, 1 v.; Clerks' Docket, 1 v.; Judgment Docket, 1 v.; Execution Docket, 1 v.; Fee Book, 1 v.

APPENDIX

Most of the following papers are in bundles in a wooden box on shelf in circuit clerk's office. In general they pertain rather to county commissioners' business.

Plat of the Road from Kaskaskia to Pelky's Cabin on the Mississippi, opposite Carpenter's Ferry, June, 1802.

This is a single sheet 8 x 14 inches with plat and notes. It is in bundle with papers of court of common pleas, 1802, near top of box.

Petition for a Road from Kaskaskia to the Trace from Post Vincennes where it crosses the Kaskaskia River, April, 1802.

This is signed by forty-six petitioners.

Petition for Road from Kaskaskia to Pelky's Cabin opposite Carpenter's Ferry on the Spanish Side, June, 1802.

This is signed by thirty-five petitioners, all but a few of whom signed by mark.

Petition to Reduce Tavern Rates, 1802.

This is a petition signed by thirty-one inhabitants who protest against exorbitant rates and pray for their reduction.

Petition for a Road from Kaskaskia to Intersect Shawneetown Road at or near Archambeau, 1830.

Petition is signed by forty-two citizens, including Pope, Menard, Morrison, Hughes, etc.

Abstract of Revenue arising from County Stills and Distilleries, 1797–1805.

Tax List, Mitchel Township, 1798.

This is a slip of paper 4 x 12 inches, in a bundle labeled "Petitions, etc." It gives names of persons, number of horses, cattle, and slaves.

Treasurers' Statement of Money Received, 1829.

Contents: amount and date of each item and from whom it was received.

Poll Book of Election held in Plumb Creek Township, August, 1819.

This gives a list of sixty-one voters.

Petition in Favor of Henry I. Williams for Constable, 1830.

The petition is signed by sixty-two citizens of Mary's River township. This also is in bundle labeled "Petitions, etc."

Poll Book and Returns for Chester, 1841.

A list of two hundred voters at local election is given.

Poll Book and Returns, 1808.

This was a vote on Rice Jones and William Wilson for county clerk. The poll includes Kaskaskia, Mitchel, Prairie du Rocher, and Fort Massac townships. Kaskaskia had 54 voters; Prairie du Rocher had 18 voters; Mitchel had 11 voters; and Fort Massac had 57.

"Schedule of the Whole Number of Persons within the Division Allotted to Robert Eliotte," no date.

This gives names of heads of families and number of free persons, male and female, in Goshen and Wood River townships.

Bill of Sale for Negro Boy Reuben, December 12, 1804.

This is in a bundle with court of common pleas papers for year 1804.

Miscellaneous French Papers: Marriage Contracts, 1779–1780, 1 bundle; 2 letters, one signed "Hamilton," and dated 1777; one signed by Judge Haggin dated 1803; 15 or 20 miscellaneous court papers, etc.

Memorial to Congress, Passed by General Assembly of Illinois, January 8 [1815(?)]

This is a request made by the legislative council and house of representatives to the commissioner of the general land office and the secretary of the treasury that they "dispense with the necessity of causing the title papers deposited in the receiver's office for the district of Kaskaskia being removed

to Washington" (in accordance with act of Congress, April 16, 1814)) or intercede with Congress to pass a law to that effect.

On back of folded paper is this endorsement:

"Memorial to Congress
"Passed H. R. Jan. 8th
"8th Jany. concurred in."

Commissions of the Justices of the Peace and General Quarter Sessions for the County of Randolph, 1800.

Signed by John Gibson, secretary, Indiana territory and acting governor at that time.

List of Taxable Lands, 1808, 1 folio, in grand-jury room.

Present owners, original claimants, amount of land, location, value, and amount of tax are listed.

Treasurers' Tax Book, 1823, 1 folio, in grand-jury room.

This gives owners' name, name of county, location of land, amount and value; number and value of servants, horses, stock in trade, carriages, stills, etc.; total amount of tax.

Census Schedule of Randolph County, 1825, 1 paper folio, in corner of vault with old records.

ABSTRACT OF CENSUS, 1825

Number free white males over 21	759
Number free white males under 21	1075
Number free white females	1655
Number male slaves or servants	131
Number female slaves or servants	109
Number free male persons of color	47
Number free female persons of color	44
Total	3820

8 distilleries, 6 tanneries, 8 horse band mills, 1 horse geared mill, 3 inclined wheel grist mills, 1 water grist mill, 2 water saw mills, 3 cotton gins, 1 carding machine (wool), 2 house carpenters carrying on business, 3 shoe manufactories, 2 hat manufactories, 5 blacksmith shops, 1 bake shop, 2 tailor shops, 1 saddle manufactory, 1 spinning wheel manufactory.

Aggregate Amount of Each Description of Persons in Illinois Territory, 1810, subscribed to by Nath. Pope, December 21, 1810.

This is in a bundle labeled "Petitions, Schedules, etc."

The census lists: names of heads of families and number of persons of various ages, number of slaves, and number of craftsmen and manufactories.

AGGREGATE AMOUNT OF EACH DESCRIPTION OF PERSONS IN ILLINOIS TERRITORY, 1810

		Free White Males					Free White Females					All others except Indians	Slaves	Total	Grand Total
		Under 10	10 to 16	16 to 26	26 to 45	45 upwards	Under 10	10 to 16	16 to 26	26 to 45	45 upwards				
ST. CLAIR	Goshen	347	160	150	187	78	317	114	147	121	60	44	.....	1725	
	Wood River	87	34	45	32	21	87	26	37	30	16	16	.....	425	
	Turkey Hill	.....	84	107	114	55	206	87	98	95	33	4	.....	1151	
	Eagle	57	26	57	55	15	53	29	42	27	14	9	.....	384	
	Fountain	52	18	37	20	15	37	19	21	17	10	5	.....	251	
	Cahokia	93	72	74	94	61	105	54	43	54	15	6	40	711	
	Peoria	8	5	4	16	2	15	3	4	7	1	28	.....	93	
	Cape au Grai	7	1	5	2	3	2	4	1	4	.....	.....	.....	29	
	Prairie du Chien	43	10	24	53	20	38	9	13	23	4	1	.....	238	
RANDOLPH	Kaskaskia	90	38	74	67	34	65	35	52	31	26	62	48	622	
	U. S. Saline	98	31	128	111	21	56	31	38	41	12	278	.....	845	
	Shawneetown	154	74	85	79	31	144	59	98	61	21	24	.....	830	
	Rest of Co.	968	392	484	509	200	894	321	459	383	152	136	80	4978	
															12,282

Subscribed to by N. Pope. It is found in wooden box on shelf in circuit clerk's office.

Schedule of the Whole Number of Persons in the following townships of St. Clair County, 1810, viz.: Turkey Hill, Eagle, Fountain, Wood River, and Goshen.

It is in a bundle labeled "Petitions, Schedules, etc."

The following abstract of the census may be quoted:

Total number souls—3936.

Total number of looms—260, producing 36,596 yards cloth per year.

Total number of distilleries—8, producing 10,200 gallons whisky per year.

Total number tanneries—5, tanning 1,300 hides per year.

Total number sawmills—5, cutting 800 [?] feet per year.

Total number gristmills—5, grinding 6,440 barrels per year.

Total number cotton gins—1, ginning 75 pounds per hour.

Total number boat yards—2, making 21 boats per year.

Total number sugar camps—78, making 15,600 pounds per year.

Total number spinning wheels—630.

Artisans:—Cabinet makers, 6; saddlers, 3; shoe makers, 6; coopers, 7; blacksmiths, 15.

NOTE—Since the investigation of Randolph county was made there have been returned to the clerk of the circuit court the eighteenth century manuscripts, commonly known as the Kaskaskia manuscripts, which have been in the custody of the University of Illinois since 1906. These have been carefully mended and mounted and placed in leather-bound portfolios. For a discussion of their nature and contents see American Historical Association, *Annual report*, 1905, pp. 353 *et seq.*

RICHLAND COUNTY[1]

Richland county was set off from Clay and Lawrence in 1841; the county seat is Olney. The courthouse is not fireproof, being built with wooden floors and lath and plaster walls. Steam heat and electric light are used. The vaults are small, eight by ten by fifteen, necessitating the keeping of the county court files in the clerk's office, and the tax records in a storeroom. The circuit clerk's records and files are all inside his vault. The vaults are furnished with wooden cases, and papers are kept in cardboard filingboxes.

County Clerk

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' AND SUPERVISORS' RECORDS

County Commissioners' Court Record, August, 1841–April, 1859, 1 v. (A)

Contents: records relating to laying out of roads and bridges; licenses for ferries, taverns, etc.; lists of jurors, records of orders issued, etc.

Supervisors' Record, 1859–date, 5 v. (B–F)

Supervisors' Papers, 1851–date, 82 f.b.

Road Petitions and Plats, 1842–1879, 4 f.b.

Jury List, 1872–date, 2 v.

COUNTY COURT RECORDS

County Court Record, 1872–date: Common Law, 2 v.; Criminal, 1 v.

County Court Files (common law and criminal), 1872–date, 53 f.b.

Insanity Record, 1893–1900, 1 v.

Findings and order of jury are recorded.

Insane and Conservators' Record, 1886–1899, 1 v. (1)

This contains records of findings in case and also letters and bonds of conservators.

Naturalization Record, 1868–1906, 3 v.

Naturalization Papers, 1851–1906, 4 f.b.

Judges' Docket (common law and criminal), 1872–date, 3 v.

[1] Examined March, 1912.

Judgment Docket, 1872–date, 2 v. (1–2)
Execution Docket, 1872–date, 1 v. (1)
Insanity Docket, 1893–date, 1 v.
This contains name of person alleged to be insane; name of informant and of witnesses, and order of court.
County Court Fee Book, 1872–date, 4 v.
Insanity Fee Book, 1893–date, 3 v.

TAXATION RECORDS

Abstract of Assessment, 1892–date, 2 v. (C–D)
This contains tabulated statement of assessment of lands, lots, and personal property.
Docket of Rates and Amounts Wanted, 1877–1909, 1 v. (A)
School Plats, 1867–date, 2 v.
Road District Plat Record, c. 1900–date, 1 v.
Assessors' Books and Collectors' Books, 1855–date.
These are in storeroom upstairs, except those for the current year.
Board of Review Record, 1899–date, 1 v. (1)
Board of Review Complaint Docket, 1899–date, 1 v. (1)
Railroad Tax Book, 1874–date, 3 v.
Tax Judgment Record, 1856–1879, 3 v.
Tax Sale Record, 1868–1882, 3 v.
Tax Judgment, Sale, Redemption, and Forfeiture Record, 1882–date, 5 v. (A–E)
Record of Affidavits for Tax Deeds, 1876–date, 2 v. (A–B)

RECORDS OF VITAL STATISTICS

Marriage Record, May, 1840–date, 4 v.
From 1840–1880 the record contains no more than the name and date of marriage. Beginning with 1878 and continuing to date (v. 3–4), the record contains the board of health form.
Index to Marriage Record, 1840–date, 3 v. each for male and female.
Marriage Licenses, 1841–date, 58 f.b.
Record of Applications for Marriage License, 1883–date, 5 v.
Register of Births, 1878–date, 3 v. (1–3); Index, 1 v.
Register of Still Births, 1878–date, 1 v.
Register of Deaths, 1878–date, 2 v. (1–2); Index, 1 v.
Record of Physicians' Certificates, 1877–1906, 1 v.

Record of Physicians' and Dentists' Certificates, 1906–date, 1 v.
Register of Physicians and Accoucheurs, 1878–1906, 1 v. (A)
Census Returns, 1880, 1 v.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Poll Books and Tally Sheets, 1873–date, 21 f.b.
Poll Books, Tally Sheets and Abstract of Votes, 1900, 1 f.b.
Abstract of Votes, 1858–1890, 1 f.b.
Assessors' Bond Record, 1899–date, 1 v. (1)
Constables' Bond Record, 1888–date, 1 v. (1)
Justices' Bond Record, 1888–date, 1 v. (1)
Register of County Officers, 1867–date, 1 v. (B)
Register of Township Officers, 1897–date, 1 v. (1)
Estray Record, 1865–1910, 1 v. (B)
Descriptive Book, Sons of Veterans, U. S. A., 1 v.
Name, age, birthplace, residence and occupation of son of veteran, together with father's record in civil war are given.
Sheriffs' Certificate of Sale Record, 1872–1879, 1 v. (A)
Sales of property to satisfy judgments are recorded.
Ledger, 1826–1831, 1 v.
This is an account ledger of some village store.

County Clerk—Probate

PROBATE COURT RECORDS

Probate Court Record, October, 1841–date, 16 v. (1–16)
The first few volumes of the record contain all probate records, appraisements, sales, reports, etc. The later records contain only orders, etc.
Probate Court Files, 1841–date, 241 f.b.
Index to Probate Files: Estates, 1 v.; Guardians, 1 v.

DOCKETS AND FEE BOOKS

Probate Judges' Docket, 1876–date, 5 v. (A–E)
Probate Judges' Report Docket, 1875–1892, 1 v. (A)
This is a docket of reports of administrators, executors, etc.
Estate Docket, 1858–1874, 1 v. (A)
The volume is labeled "Docket A."
Estate Ledger, 1870–1878, 1 v. (A)
The ledger gives name of administrator, date of letters, date of appraisement, inventory and sale bills, list of claims allowed, etc.

Guardians' Estate Docket, 1883–1891, 1 v. (1)
Probate Judgment Docket, February, 1859–date, 4 v. (A–D)
Probate Fee Book, 1862–date, 6 v.

RECORDS OF WILLS, BONDS, AND LETTERS

Will Record, 1867–date, 4 v. (A–D)
Petition for probate, proof of death, proof of will, and copy of will are recorded.

Record of Bonds and Letters, 1855–1866, 1 v.
Administrators' Record, 1859–date, 5 v. (A–E)
Executors' Record, 1863–date, 2 v.
"Will Record No. 3," 1897–1905, 1 v.
Contents: executors' letters and bonds.

Conservators' Record, 1899–date, 1 v. (2)
Guardians' Record, 1867–date, 4 v. (B–E)

INVENTORIES, APPRAISEMENTS, SALE BILLS, ETC.

Inventory, Appraisement, and Sale Bill Record, 1877–1883, 2 v. (2–3)
Inventory Record, 1883–date, 2 v. (4–5)
Guardians' Inventory Record, 1909–date, 1 v. (1)
Appraisement Record, 1883–date, 3 v. (4–6)
Sale Record, 1883–date, 1 v. (4)
Account Current Ledger, c. 1872–date, 5 v. (1–5)
Report Record, 1882–date, 5 v. (1–5)
Guardians' Report Record, 1885–date, 4 v. (F–I)
Insolvent Estate Record, 1877–date, 1 v. (1)
Widows' Relinquishment and Selection Record, 1895–date, 2 v.

Clerk of the Circuit Court

CIRCUIT COURT RECORDS

Circuit Court Record: Common Law, Chancery, and Criminal, 1842–1881, 7 v. (2 unnumbered, 3, 4, and F–H); Chancery, 1869–date, 9 v. (1–9); Divorce, 1898–date, 2 v. (1–2); Partition, 1884–date, 3 v. (1–3); Common Law, 1881–date, 3 v.; Criminal, 1881–date, 2 v.; Default Record, 1881–date, 2 v.
Index to Court Record, 1858–1879, 1 v. each for plaintiff and defendant.

Circuit Court Files, 1842–date, 633 f.b.; Index, 1 v.

Up to 1856 common law, chancery and criminal files are kept together. After that date they are separate.

Judges' Docket, 1858–date, 15 v. (1–15)

Judgment Docket, 1842–date, 5 v. (1–5)

Execution Docket, 1842–date, 5 v.

Mechanics' Lien Record (docket), 1889–date, 1 v. (1)

Fee Book, 1842–date, 27 v.

Justice of the Peace Transcript Record, 1861–date, 3 v. (A–C)

Coroners' Record, 1870–date, 1 v. (A)

The volume records name of deceased, date and place of inquest, names of jury and of witnesses, verdict of jury, description of deceased, and general remarks.

Report Record, Circuit Clerk, States Attorney, and Master in Chancery, 1905–date, 1 v. (1)

Circuit Clerk—Recorder

DEED AND MORTGAGE RECORDS

Entry Book, 1852–date, 7 v. (1, A–F)

Deed Record, 1841–date, 84 v. (A–Z, 1–58)

Mortgage Record, 1855–date, 60 v. (A–Z, 1–34)

Chattel mortgages are kept in this series, but after 1879 (v. M) they are in separate volumes.

Release Record, 1893–date, 4 v. (1–4)

General Index (deeds and mortgages, etc.), 1841–date; 10 v. each for grantor and grantee.

Index to Marginal Releases and Assignments, 1905–date, 1 v.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Record of United States Surveys, 1876, 1 v.

Land Entry Book, 1836–1858, 1 v.

The entries include date, name of patentee, description and location of land and amount entered.

Miscellaneous Record, 1886–date, 3 v. (A–C)

Surveyors' Record, 1885–date, 2 v.

Field notes and plats are recorded.

Old Survey Record, 1846–1852, 1 v.

Plats and field notes are recorded. This is a copy of an older record.

Record of Sheriffs' Certificates of Levy, Sale, and Redemption, 1845–date, 3 v.

Masters' Report and Certificate Record, 1879–date, 4 v. (A–D)

Masters' reports and certificates of sale are recorded.

Swamp Land Record, c. 1860, 1 v.

The volume contains a list of lands and record of sale.

Stallion Register, 1910–date, 2 v.

One volume is for first registration and the other for renewals.

ROCK ISLAND COUNTY[1]

Rock Island county was authorized in 1831 and was organized out of Jo Daviess in 1833; the county seat is Rock Island; the county has all four offices of record. The courthouse is located in a square and is fireproof. The records are in large vaults that are practically fireproof. The only possible point of weakness is a wooden floor, and it is hard maple closely laid on a concrete base. The equipment is modern. Old records and files from all four offices are kept in a room on the first floor equipped with wooden shelves and pasteboard filingboxes. These boxes are indexed in a good index. In the time at disposal it was not possible to do more than estimate the dates and extent of county files. The numbers of boxes given are often filing numbers.

County Clerk

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' AND SUPERVISORS' RECORDS

County Commissioners' and Supervisors' Record, 1833–date, 15 v. (A–O); Supervisors' Papers, 1833–date, 162 f.b.

Supervisors' Blotter, 1837–1859, 1 v.; 1862–date, 12 v.

These are rough notes of board meetings.

Reports of Supervisors' Committees: poor farm, 1884–date, 1 v.; miscellaneous claims, 1881–date, 3 v.; jail, 1881–date, 1 v.; fees and salaries, 1900–date, 1 v.

Register of County Orders, 1833–1887, 8 v., in basement; 1887–1896, in basement; 1910–date, 2 v.

Register of County Orders, Countersigned, 1861, 1 v.; 1873–1905, 5 v. (2–6), in basement.

Headings: number of order, date, in whose favor, amount, and when paid.

Record of Road Plats, 1854–1857, 1 v.

Jury Lists, 1866–1897, 10 f.b., in basement.

COUNTY COURT RECORDS

County Court Record: Criminal, 1872–date, 4 v.; Common Law

[1] Examined July–August, 1912; reëxamined April, 1914.

and Special Assessment, 1872–date, 11 v. (1–11); Defaults, 1878, 1 v., in basement.

County Court Files: Common Law, 40 f.b.; Criminal, 32 f.b.; Special Assessments, 1907–date, 40 f.b.

Assignment Record, 1877–1905, 3 v.

Inheritance Tax Record, 1905–date, 2 v.

Contents: record of appraisement and court order approving.

Insanity Record, 1852–date, 6 v. (A–F)

Volume F is in the probate office.

Naturalization Record, 1872–1906: Declaration of Intention, 7 v.; Final Certificate, 10 v.; Soldiers, 1884–1906, 1 v.

Naturalization Papers, 1861–1906, 24 f.b., in basement.

Delinquent and Dependent Children's Papers, 1903–date, 10 f.b.

Insanity Files, 1853–date, 27 f.b.

Voluntary Assignment Papers, 1878–date, 3 f.b.

Adoption Papers, 1877–date, 2 f.b.

Clerks' Docket, County Court, 1872–1879, 1 v., in basement.

Judges' Docket, 1872–date, 5 v.

The volumes are loose leaf after 1908.

Judgment Docket, 1873–1889, 1 v., in basement.

Execution Docket, 1872–date, 1 v.

Executions, 1872–date, 2 f.b.

County Court Fee Book, 1872–date, 6 v.

TAXATION RECORDS

Record of Abstract of Assessment, 1883–date, 2 v.

Abstracts of Collectors' Books, 1858–1891, 15 f.b., in basement.

Original Entry Book, 1834–1857, 1 v.

School District Plats, 1849–1877, 2 v., in basement; 1896–date, 2 v.

Entries of Conveyances, 1872, 1 v.

Railroad and Corporation Schedules, 1854–1894, 19 f.b., in basement.

School Tax Levies, 1854–1894, 9 f.b., in basement.

School Tax Record, 1875–1894, 5 v.

Road Tax Lists, 1863–1895, 46 f.b., in basement.

Assessors' Books, 1843[?]–date.

Collectors' Books, 1843[?]–date.

Railroad Tax Book, 1873–date, 4 v.

Personal Property Abatement Lists, 1877, 1 v.; n.d., 2 v.

These are returns of personal property assessments on which no tax can be collected. The volumes are in the basement.

"Record of advertised list," 1865–1868, 1 v.; 1873–1879, 3 v.; 1882–1883, 1 v., in basement.

Advertised Delinquent Lists, 1843–1896, 9 f.b., in basement.

Tax Judgment Record, 1845–1849, 1 v.; 1850–1873, 8 v.; 1878–1879, 1 v.

Record of Tax Sales, 1840–1860, paper folios; 1845, 2 v.; 1857–1867, 1 v.; 1850–1873, 1 v.; 1874–1889, 1 v.

Tax Sale and Redemption Record, 1840–1880, 10 v. (1–10)

Forfeiture Record, 1892–1900, 1 v.

Record of Lands Forfeited to the State, 1857, 1 v.; 1874–1877, 1 v.; 1888–1890, 1 v.

Tax Judgment, Sale, Redemption, and Forfeiture Record, 1880–date, 31 v. (11–41)

Record of Affidavits for Tax Deeds, 1872–date, 3 v. (1–3)

Certificates of Purchase at Tax Sales, 1860–1894, 6 f.b., in basement.

Statement of Settlement with Town Officers for Taxes, 1894–1897, 6 v. (5–10), in basement.

County Collectors' Statement of Account, 1886–1889, 1 v., in basement.

County Ledger, 1858–1866, 1 v., in basement.

RECORDS OF VITAL STATISTICS

Marriage Record, 1833–1899, 4 v.; 1877–1908, 4 v. and current; Index, 2 v. each for male and female.

The second series is board of health form; part of these volumes are in the basement.

Marriage Licenses, 1834–date, 30 f.b.

Affidavits for Marriage Licenses, 1855–1896, 30 f.b., in basement.

Record of Applications for Marriage License, 1891–date, 29 v. (1–29); v. 1–15, in basement.

Register of Births, 1877–date, 9 v.; Index, 2 v.

Register of Deaths, 1878–date, 6 v.; Index, 1 v.

Birth Reports, 1878–date

Death Reports, 1878–date, 12 f.b.
Coroners' Death Certificate Register, 1910–date, 1 v.
Register of Physicians, 1877–date, 3 v.
Register of Physicians and Accoucheurs, 1878–1890, 1 v.
Record of Dental Certificates, 1895–date, 2 v.
Architects' License Record, 1897–date, 2 v.
Veterinary Surgeons' Record, 1900–date, 1 v.
Nurses' License Record, 1909–date, 1 v.
Census Returns, 1840, 1850, 1855, 1860, 1865, 1870, 1880, 1 v. for each year, in basement.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Election Papers, 1876–1897, 15 f.b., in basement.
Justices' Bond Record, 1881–date, 1 v.
Constables' Bond Record, 1881–date, 1 v.
Assessors' Bond Record, 1899–date, 1 v.
Bonds and Oaths, 1839–1891, 11 f.b., in basement.
Register of Bonds, Dog License Tax, 1880–1890, 1 v.
Register of County Officers, 1839–date, 2 v.
Record of Qualification for Office by County Officers, 1839–1865, 1 v.
Military Record, 1861–1865, 1 v.
Militia Roll Record, 1863, 1 v., in basement.
Register of Liquor Licenses, 1873–1875, 1 v., in basement.
Record of Marks and Brands, 1833–1873, 1 v., in basement; Papers, 1 f.b., in basement.
Estray Record, 1832–1860, 1 v.; 1860–1893, 1 v.
Estray Papers, 1843–1895, 5 f.b., in basement.

The first volume includes also tavern and merchandising licenses of the thirties.

Scrapbook of Estray Advertisements, 1897–date, 1 v.
Accounts with Physicians, etc. for Births, 1911–date, 1 v.
Accounts of Overseer of Poor, 1894–date, 2 v.
Jail Board Register, 1884–1893, 1 v., in basement.
Record of Families Relieved by Overseer of the Poor, 1883–1893, 2 v.; 1879–1896, 1 v. each for Moline and Rock Island.
Stallion Register, 1886–1906, 1 v.
Record of School Commissioners and County Superintendent, 1838–1850, 1 v.; 1852–1871, 1 v.; 1865–1867, 1 v., all in basement.

School Commissioners' Cash Book, 1837–1850, 1 v., in basement.
Coroners' Docket, 1896–1908, 1 v.
Swamp Land Record, 1852–1859, 1 v.
Orders for County Orders, 1844–1896, 11 f.b., in basement.
Register of Receipts and Expenditures, 1874–1880, 1 v., in basement; 1888–date, 3 v.
Rock Island City Police Court Record, 1866–1869, 1 v., in basement.

Clerk of the Probate Court

PROBATE COURT RECORDS

Probate Court Record, 1837–date, 47 v. (A–Z, 27–46, 2 v. "A"); 1859–1862, 1 v.; 1869–1872, 1 v., last 2 v. in basement.
Probate Files: Estates, 1835–date, Guardians, 1850–date, 395 f.b.
Probate Blotter, 1852–1859, 2 v.; 1865–1869, 1 v.; 1872–1879, 2 v.
Miscellaneous Record, 1893–1910, 3 v.

DOCKETS AND FEE BOOKS

Dockets of Settlements Due, 1879–1880, 1 v.
Probate Judgment Docket, 1859–1881, 4 v.
Docket of Claims, 1882–date, 3 v.
Number of claim, date, claimant and estate, amount, value and order are given.
Probate Estate Docket, 1852–1872, 1 v., in basement.
Probate Estate Claim Docket, 1877–1879, 1 v., in basement.
Probate Fee Book, 1840–1851, 1 v., in basement; 1847–1858, 1 v.; 1854–1857, 1 v., in basement; 1855–1858, 1 v., in basement; 1859–1906, 12 v. (A–L)
Administrators' and Executors' Fee Book, 1911–date, 1 v.
Guardians' Fee Book, 1911–date, 1 v.
Insane and Conservators' Fee Book, 1889–date, 2 v.
Fee Book of Delinquents (juvenile) and of Adoption, 1911–date, 1 v.

RECORDS OF WILLS, BONDS, AND LETTERS

Record of Wills, 1837–date, 14 v. (A–N)
Record of Probate Bonds, 1839–1841, 1 v.
Contents: bonds, appraisements, etc.

Record of Probate Bonds, etc., 1841–1846, 1 v.
Contents: bonds, letters, etc.
Record of Bonds, 1849–1859, 2 v. (A–B)
Administrators' Record, 1859–date, 11 v. (A–J, 1)
Executors' Record, 1859–date, 6 v. (A–E, 1)
Guardians' Record, 1859–date, 5 v. (A–E)
Record of Miscellaneous Bonds and Letters, 1884–date, 3 v. (A–C)
Record of Bonds for the Sale of Real Estate, 1899–date, 1 v.

INVENTORIES, APPRAISEMENTS, AND SALE BILLS

Inventory and Appraisement Record, 1849–1859, 2 v. (A–B)
Inventory Record, 1859–date, 13 v. (A–M)
Copartnership Inventory Record, 1872–date, 1 v.
Guardians' Inventory Record, 1872–date, 1 v.
Appraisement Record, 1855–date, 9 v. (A–I)
Sale Record, Personal Property, 1859–date, 3 v. (A–C)

REPORT RECORDS, ETC.

Report Record, 1857–date, 13 v. (A, 2–13)
Final Report Record, 1905–date, 3 v. (1–3)
Report of Distribution, 1910–date, 1 v.
Insolvent Estate Record, 1883–date, 1 v.
Guardians' Report Record, 1885–date, 8 v. (1–8)
Administrators' and Executors' Report Record, 1910–date, 2 v.
Widows' Relinquishment and Selection Record, 1882–date, 2 v.
Widows' Selection Record, 1911–date, 1 v.
Record of Sale of Real Estate, 1864–1888, 3 v.
The last volume is in the basement.
Probate Clerks' Register of Receipts and Expenditures, 1911–date.

Clerk of the Circuit Court

CIRCUIT COURT RECORDS

Circuit Court Record: Common Law, 1834–date, 21 v. (1–21); Criminal, 1858–1866, 1 v.; 1869–date, 8 v.; Chancery, 1843–date, 28 v.; Index, 2 v. each for plaintiff and defendant for common law and 1 v. each for chancery, 6 v. in all.
Branch Circuit Court Record, 1909–date, 1 v. each for common law and chancery.

Circuit Court Files: Common Law, 1835–1859, 32 f.b., filed by year; 1859–date, in 205 f.b. filed by number; Chancery, 1840–1857, 6 f.b.; 1857–date, 435 f.b.; Criminal, 1834–1856, 6 f.b.; 1856–date, 70 f.b.

Naturalization Record: Final Certificate, 1854–1860, 1 v.; 1865–1877, 1 v.; Declaration of Intention, 1854–1883, 3 v.; 1854–1859, 1 v.; Final Certificate, 1865–1899, and Minors, 1865–1871, 1 v.; Rerecord of earlier records, 1854–1866, 2 v.

DOCKETS, FEE BOOKS, ETC.

Circuit Court Docket, 1834–1855, 5 v.; 1837–1849, 1 v., in basement.

General Docket, 1856–1859, 2 v. (4–5), in basement

Chancery Docket, 1862–1889, 7 v. (6–12); 1857–1861, 1 v., all in basement.

Common Law Docket, 1860–1889, 10 v. (6–15), in basement.

Criminal Docket, 1853–1862, 1 v., in basement; 1862–1889, 2 v. (6–7)

Judges' Docket, 1890, 1 v.; 1897, 1 v.; 1898–1899, 2 v.; 1890–1906, 33 v. (5–37); 1906–1907, 4 v.; Criminal, 1895–1906, 6 v.; 1908–date, 1 loose-leaf v. each for common law, chancery and criminal.

The earlier volumes are in the basement.

Clerks' Docket, 1866–1879, 4 v.; 1879–1889, 3 v.; 1891–1895, 2 v.; 1900–date, 4 v.

The earlier volumes are in basement.

Table of Cases Disposed of, 1839–1848, 1 v., in basement.

Short Cause Calendar, 1890–1892, 1 v., in basement.

Judgment Docket, 1839–1842, 1 v.; 1849–1856, 1 v.; 1856–date, 12 v. (3–14)

Volume 14 is loose leaf; the volumes before 9 are in the basement.

Execution Docket, 1834–1840, 1 v.; 1840–date, 5 v.

The first volume contains execution fee bills; up to 1878, the volumes are in basement.

Executions, 1834–date, 26 f.b.

Docket of Mechanics' Liens, 1883–date, 1 v.

Docket of Coroners' Inquests, 1877–date, 1 v.

Fee Book, 1834–date, 31 v. (1–31)

Volumes 1–19 are in basement.

Justice of the Peace Transcript Record, 1847–date, 8 v.
Justice of the Peace Transcripts, 1838–date, 5 f.b.
Record of Liens on Gets, 1888, 1 v.
Cash Books, Circuit Clerk, 1 v. each for 1871–1876, 1880–1883, 1883–1886, 1884–1886, 1888–1893 (2 v.), 1889–1899 (1 v.), 1898–1899 (1 v.), 1901–date (2 v.)

The earlier volumes are in the basement.

Circuit Clerks' Register of Fees, 1873–1882, 1 v.; 1885–date, 2 v.
Jury List, 1910–date, 1 v.

Recorder

DEED AND MORTGAGE RECORDS

Entry Book, 1835–1854, 4 v.; 1864–1897, 9 v. (A–I), in basement; 1897–date, 12 v. (J–U), in office.

Each of the volumes in the last series contains grantor and grantee indexes to instruments entered in it.

Deed Record, 1835–date, 166 v.
Mortgage Record, 121 v. (1–121)
Railroad Mortgage (mortgage of property to railroads), 1857, 1 v.
Sheriffs' Tax Deed Record, 1862–1875, 1 v.
Plat Book, 1862–date, 12 v.; Index, 2 v.
Grantor and Grantee Index, 24 v. each.

The index is alphabetical; there is 1 v. for each letter; one volume for "overflow."

Index to Marginal Releases, 1905–date, 1 v.
General Index to Deeds, 1836–1881, 1 v. (1) and 2 v. each for grantor and grantee, for v. 2–5, in basement.
Chattel Mortgage Record, 1858–date, 36 v. (1–36)

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Record of Masters' Certificates of Sale, 1884–date, 2 v. (4–5)
Record of Masters' Certificates of Redemption, 1865–date, 1 v.
Record of Sheriffs' Certificates of Sale, 1856–date, 2 v. (1–2)
Record of Masters' and Sheriffs' Sale Certificates, 1865–date, 1 v. (3)
Record of Redemption from Sheriffs' Sale Certificates, 1860–date, 1 v.
Sheriffs' Attachment and Execution Record, 1844–date, 1 v.

Record of Miscellaneous Certificates, 1865–date, 6 v.
Record of United States Surveys, 1 v.
Surveyors' Record, 1854–1873, 1866–1877, 1883–date, 3 v.
Record of Discharged Soldiers, 1865–date, 1 v.; 1898–date, 1 v.
Township Treasurers' Bond Record, 1890–1903, 1 v., in basement; 1902–date, 1 v.
Collectors' Bond Record, 1860–date, 4 v.

The first two volumes are in basement.

ST. CLAIR COUNTY[1]

St. Clair county was established by proclamation of Governor St. Clair in 1790; the county seat is Belleville. The courthouse and vaults are fireproof, and the filing material wooden; no records are in storerooms. The county has all four offices of record.

County Clerk

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' AND SUPERVISORS' RECORDS

Minutes of the Court of Quarter Sessions at Cahokia, July 2, 1799–December 29, 1801.

The record consists of 23 p., loose and unbound, found in storeroom in basement and placed in historical museum in the courthouse. It contains list of officers and grand jurors, indictments, orders concerning building of roads, repairing fences around salt pits, appointment of guards at ferries to "keep off the plague of the Small Pox that now rages on the Spanish side" (p. 16), and order that anyone crossing to be fined $6 for the first offense, $12 and ten days' imprisonment for second offense, "and remain in prison till he or they shall pay the final fine." Goods brought from Spanish side also were to be confiscated, etc.

Minutes of the Court of Quarter Sessions, December, 1805–December, 1808.

This is a folio of about 50 p. stitched but not bound, found in storeroom and placed in museum.

County Commissioners' Court Record: "County Court Record 5," 1837–1843, 1 v.; County Commissioners' Court Record, 1843–1884, 7 v. (A–G)

Supervisors' Record, 1885–date, 9 v.

Supervisors' Papers, 1893–date, 224 f.b.

Indentures of Apprenticeship and Adoption, 1821–date, 3 f.b. (299, 300, 836)

One or two indentures date back to 1799.

Jury List, 1890–date, 2 v. (2–3)

[1] Examined November, 1911.

COUNTY COURT RECORDS

County Court Record: Common Law and Criminal, 1872–date, 11 v.; Criminal, 1872–1896, 1 v. (1); plaintiff and defendant indexes.

County Court Files (common law and criminal), 1872–date, 34 f.b., in vault.

Drainage District No. 1, Special Assessment for Taxes, 6 v.

Prairie Du Pont Levee Drainage District, 1 v.

This is a report of commissioners to assess the damages and benefits accruing to all lands by proposed construction and reparation of levee, 1893.

Voluntary Assignment Record, 1884–date, 3 v.

Adoption Record, 1858–date, 1 v.

Insanity Record, 1875–date, 4 v.

Insanity Files, 1864–date, 11 f.b., in vault.

Naturalization Record, 1864–1906, 10 v.

Naturalization Papers, 1862–1906, 11 f.b., in vault.

County Clerk's Court Docket, 1872–date.

Volumes prior to 1908 are in storeroom.

Judgment Docket, 1872–date, 1 v. (A)

Execution Docket, 1872–date, 1 v. (A)

Insanity Docket, 1893–1907, 1 v.

County Court Fee Books (criminal, common law, and insanity), 1872–date.

TAXATION RECORDS

Abstract and Assessment of Taxes, 1879–1893, 1 v., not labeled; 1896–1905, 1 v.; 1906, *et seq.*, 1 v.

Certificates of Tax Levies: School Tax, 1864–1884, 2 f.b.; Town and City, 1872–1884, 2 f.b.; Tax Levies, 1885–1899, 3 f.b.

Railroad Assessments by State Board, 1896–1906, 2 f.b. (833, 838)

Railroad Schedules of Value, c. 1880–date, 18 f.b., in vault.

Auditors' List of Lands Sold for Taxes and Redeemed, 1833–1852.

This is in filingbox 239 with "Assessment Papers."

Assessors' Books, 1841, 1842, 1853, 1857–date.

Those prior to 1907 are in storeroom.

Collectors' Books, 1840–1879, in storeroom; 1879–1907, in office of superintendent of poor; 1908–date, in clerk's office.

Railroad Tax Books, 1874–date.

Delinquent Tax Lists, 1880–date.

Those from 1880–1909 are in basement storeroom.

Back Tax Record, 1874–1877, 1 v.; 1883–1897, 1 v.

Tax Judgment and Sale Records, 1839–1868, 6 v., in vault; 1880–1885, 5 v., in storeroom; 1908–date, in vault.

Records for 1860–1865 were not found.

Record of Affidavits for Tax Deeds, 1853–date, 5 v. (A–E)

RECORDS OF VITAL STATISTICS

Marriage Record, 1807–1845, "A–D," 1 v., copied.

The record gives names, date of marriage, and person officiating. The volume is indexed by male.

Marriage Record, 1846–1859, "E," 1 v., original.

The volume records names, date, and officer. It is indexed by male.

Marriage Record, 1859–1861, 1 v. (F)

Contents: names, date of license, date of marriage, and certificate of marriage signed by officiant. The volume is indexed by male.

Marriage Register, "G," 1861–1873, 1 v.

The register gives names, date of license and marriage, and name of officer; it is indexed by male and by female.

Marriage Register, "H," 2 v., one each for male and female.

Marriage Record, "I," 1874–1876, 1 v.

This is a record of license and certificate of marriage, giving names and ages of couple, date of license and marriage, and officer.

Marriage Record, "J" (minors), 1874–1877, 1 v.

This is a record of marriages where either party was a minor.

Marriage Record, "K," 1876–1877, 1 v.

Register of Marriages, 1877–date, 9 v. (1–9); Index, 4 v.

"Index to Marriage License A–F, Females," 1 v.

In front several pages are laid in; these contain names of parties marrying, 1791–1806, about 91 in all.

Marriage Licenses, 1807–date, 60 f.b., in vault.

The earlier files up to about 1820 contain only certificate of marriage; from 1820–1877 they contain only license and certificate of marriage; after 1877 the board of health form is used.

Register of Births, 1877–date, 13 v.; Index, 2 v.

Register of Deaths, 1877–date, 11 v.; Index, 2 v.

Birth and Death Record, 1856–1882, 1 v.

Proofs of birth and death are recorded.

Birth Reports, 30 f.b., in vault.

Death Reports, 18 f.b., in vault.

Register of Physicians' Certificates, 1878–date, 3 v.

Agricultural Statistics, St. Clair County, 1877 and 1879, 2 v., in storeroom.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Election Records (general), 1857–1906, 1908–date.

Election Record (East St. Louis), 1886–date, 2 v.

The record contains canvass of votes for local, state, and national elections.

Abstract of Elections, 1862–1908, in storeroom; Local elections, 1902–1910, 4 f.b., in vault.

Incorporation Papers, c. 1867–1896, labeled "Corporations."

The papers contain poll books of elections to incorporate, list of officers, etc.

Register of County Officers, 1857–date, 3 v.

The headings are name, residence, office, and date of commission.

Miscellaneous Official Bonds, 1869–date, 15 f.b.

Estray Record, 1858–1875, 1 v., in storeroom; 1876–date, 1 v., in vault.

Estray Papers, 1860–1905, 1 f.b., in vault.

Treasurers' Reports, 1877–date, 2 f.b., in vault.

The reports contain accounts of money received and spent.

Pension Record, 1862–1864, 1 v.

Name of person drawing pension, amount, and name of person for whose service it is given are recorded.

Clerk of the Probate Court

PROBATE COURT RECORDS

"Record of Orphan Court, No. 1, 1796–1817," indexed.

First title is: "Territory of the United States, North West of the Ohio River, St. Clair County — Minutes of the Orphan Court before James Dumoulin, Shadrach Bond; James Piggot & George Atchison, Esquires, Justices, Cahokia 5th August 1796–By Proclamation an Orphans Court was opened." This is a volume of 215 p., apparently the only record of the time. Besides probate business (settlement of estates, petitions for letters, proof of wills, guardianships, etc.), there are entries relating to roads, to township bounds, to ferry and tavern licenses, to appointments

of assessors, justices, constables, fence viewers, to writs ad quod damnum. From p. 61 to 215 the records are of the county court of common pleas, Illinois territory.

Probate Record, 1830–1837, 1 v. (B); 1838–1840, 1 v., labeled "Probate Docket"; 1840–1849, 3 v. (C–E); 1849–date, 33 v. (A–Z, 27–33)

For probate records for years 1819–1830 see "Letters Testamentary and of Administration," v. A, 1819–1829.

Record of Order for Final Settlement, 1898–date, 2 v. (A–B)

Index to Probate Record: Estates, 1 v.; Wills, 1 v.; Guardianships, 1 v.

Estate Files, 1797–date, f.b. 327–617, 882–886.

French estate papers (letters L and M), 1821–1854, are in county clerk's vault, in filingbox marked "French Estates," on right hand side of vault, bottom row.

Guardianship Files, 1821–date, 57 f.b. (714–770)

Guardianship Bonds, 23 f.b. (687–709)

DOCKETS AND FEE BOOKS

Probate Docket, 1875–date, 39 v. (A–Z, 27–39)

Volumes A–31 are in storeroom; others in vault.

"Probate Dockets," 1838–1840, 1849–1858, 4 v., in vault.

Estate Docket, 1858–date, 13 v. (A–M)

The docket contains name of estate, date of death, date of letters, names of widow and heirs, and reference to record.

Estate Register of Claims Filed, 1910–date, 1 v.

Guardians' Docket, 1868–date, 5 v. (A–E)

Name of ward and reference to all records relating to the case are given.

Probate Judgment Docket, 1862–1884, 1 v. (A)

Probate Fee Book, 1849–1858, 2 v.

Probate and Estate Fee Book, 1861–date, 15 v. (A–O)

Guardians' Fee Book, 1861–date, 4 v. (A–D)

RECORDS OF WILLS, BONDS, AND LETTERS

Record of Wills, 1794–date, 22 v. (A–V)

Volumes A–C have been copied. Many of the wills are in French.

Original Wills: French Wills, 1772–c. 1795; Wills, 1796–date.

French wills are in box 619; others in filingboxes 619–659.

Administrators' and Executors' Bond Record: "Administration

Bonds," 1831–1842, 5 v.; "Testamentary and Administration Bonds," 1842–1846, 1 v.; "Administrators' Bonds," 1845–1849, 1 v.; Administrators' and Executors' Bonds, 1849–1860, 2 v.; Executors' Bonds, 1849–1860, 1 v.

[Record of] Letters Testamentary and of Administration, 1819–1849, 6 v. (A–F)

[Record of] Letters of Administration, 1849–1860, 1 v.

[Record of] Letters Testamentary, 1838–1842, 1 v.; 1850–1860, 1 v.

Administrators' and Executors' Bonds, 1790–date, f.b. 660.

Administrators' Record, 1861–date, 19 v. (A–S)

Executors' Record, 1861–date, 10 v. (A–J)

Conservators' Record, Insanity, 1887–date, 2 v. (A–B)

Guardians' Record, 1861–date, 12 v. (A–L)

[Record of] Letters of Guardianship, 1829–1859, 3 v. (A–C)

[Record of] Administrators' and Guardians' Bonds and Letters, 1859–1860, 1 v.

[Record of] Administrators' and Executors' Additional Bonds, 1867–date, 2 v. (A–B)

INVENTORIES, APPRAISEMENTS, SALE BILLS, ETC.

Inventory Record, Estates, 1855–date, 14 v. (B–O)

Guardians' Inventory Record, 1875–date, 1 v. (A)

Appraisement Bill Record, 1863–date, 15 v. (B–P)

Sale Bill Record, 1863–1872, 2 v. (B–C), in storeroom.

Widows' Relinquishment and Selection Record, 1903–date, 2 v. (L–M)

Administrators' Current Account, 1848–date.

Guardians' Account Current, 1883–date, 10 v. (C–L)

Guardians' Final Report Record, 1904–date, 1 v. (A)

Record of Sale of Real Estate, 1856–date, 11 v. (A–K)

Clerk of the Circuit Court

EARLY COURT RECORDS

Order Book, June, 1801–December, 1808, 1 v. (67 p.—E); September, 1809–April, 1811, 1 v. (301 p.), indexed, entitled "Law Record F"; September, 1809–September, 1814, 1 v. (275 p.), indexed, entitled "Record F"; October, 1811–April, 1814, 1 v,

(503 p.), indexed, entitled "Record G."

General Court of St. Clair County Record, October Term, 1811, in museum.

These are court records among which is an indictment against Freeman Tuttle for assisting at a duel; another against Robert Pulliam for concealing Negroes.

Minutes of the Court of Common Pleas, July, 1811–June, 1816, 1 v., paper bound, 180 p.

"Continuance," 1804–1809, 2 folios.

Continuances to August Term, 1807 (with returns to said term)

This is a rule docket giving names of parties and of attorneys in case; cause of action and the ruling of the court in the case. It is a folio of about 25 p. found in storeroom and placed in museum.

Docket for July Term, 1817–October Term, 1817, a folio of about 25 p., all blank but four, found in storeroom.

Rule Docket, April, 1811–April, 1814, 1 v.

Judgment and Execution Docket, March, 1817, four pages of a ten-page folio, placed in museum.

Fee Book, 1811–1813.

This is a folio of about 50 p. found in storeroom and placed in museum.

CIRCUIT COURT RECORDS

Order Book, 1815–1816, 1 v. (A); 1817–1819, 1 v. (B); 1819–1821, 1 v. (C); 1822–1824, 1 v. (D); 1824–1828, 1 v. (E); 1828–1833, 1 v. (F); 1833–1839, 1 v. (G); 1839–1871, 19 v. (H–Z)

The order books listed above for the years 1801–1814 contain records of the court of common pleas; those for the succeeding years, 1815–1871, contain the records of the circuit court.

Common Law Record, 1871–date, 28 v.

Criminal and common law records were kept in the same volume prior to 1878; chancery records were kept by themselves after 1816.

Chancery Record: 1816–1834, 1 v. (A); 1825–1838, 1 v. (A°), supplementing A; 1838–1844, 1 v. (B); 1844–date, 43 v. (C–Z, 1–19)

Index to Chancery Records, 1816–date, 12 v.

Index to Common Law and Criminal Records, 1790–date, 14 v.

Circuit Court Files, 1790–date, 260 f.b., in vault.

Chancery Files, 1815–date, 364 f.b., in vault.

Naturalization Record, March, 1873–March, 1903, 1 v.

Naturalization Indexes, 1838–date, 2 v.

Naturalization Papers, 1836–date, 10 f.b.

DOCKETS, FEE BOOKS, ETC.

Circuit Court Docket, 1825–1839, 1 v., in storeroom.
The entries are often quite full and the lists of jurors are given entire.

Circuit Court Dockets, 1836–date, about 4 v. each year.
Those prior to 1906 are in storeroom.

"Docket from April Term, 1832," 61 p.; 1832–1839, 1 v., in vault.

Bar Docket [or Judges' Docket], 1854–date, 4 v. each year.
Those prior to 1908 are in storeroom.

Judgment Docket, 1854–date, 11 v. (E–O)
Volumes E–F are in storeroom.

Execution Docket, 1825–date, 16 v. (B–Q)
Volumes B–O are in storeroom.

Executions, 1892–date, 10 f.b., in vault.

Lien and Satisfaction Docket (docket of mechanics' liens), 1887–date, 2 v. (2–3)

Naturalization Docket, 1868–1902, 1 v.
The docket lists name of petitioner and number of application, residence, and final order of court.

Fee Book, 1811–date, 68 v.
Volumes 40–68 are in vault; others are in storeroom except one folio, 1811–1813, in museum.

Justice of the Peace Transcript Record, 1847–date, 7 v. (A–G)

Indictment Record, 1872–1900, 6 v., in storeroom.

Jury Register, 1878–date, 2 v.
Volume 1 (1878–1902) is in storeroom.

Judgment Docket (East St. Louis City Court), 1872–date, 2 v.

Recorder

DEED AND MORTGAGE RECORDS

Entry Book (deeds, mortgages, chattel mortgages, etc.), 1867–date, 15 v.
The volumes list names of grantor and grantee, description of land, kind of instrument (deed, mortgage, etc.), and consideration paid.

Deed Record, 1790–date, and Mortgage Record, 1790–date, 431 v.

Up to 1882 mortgages, deeds, and chattel mortgages were all indexed together. Since that date there is a separate index for each. These records are kept in same volume up to about 1880, and since then are kept in separate volumes which are in same series, and numbered consecutively. Chattel mortgages after 1865 are in separate series and fill 52 volumes to date. "Deed Record A" contains Governor St. Clair's proclamation creating St. Clair county and William St. Clair's list of books received from François Carbonneaux (pp. 1–6). Book E, p. 301, contains plats of Cahokia commons, 1825.

Registre regardant le Champ Commun de Cahokia. May 2, 1801–April, 1804.

Only six pages are used. The contents include election of officers and passing of regulations or resolutions. The register is in the museum.

Plat Book, 1854–date, 18 v. (A–R)

Plats prior to 1854 were recorded in deed records.

Coal Mine Plats, 2 v.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Records of Levies on Attachments and Executions of Nonresidents, 1841–date, 2 v. (A–B), labeled "Levy Book."

Sheriffs' and Masters' Certificates of Sale Record, 1847–date, 8 v. (A–H)

Land Book, c. 1814–1853, 1 v.

The volume contains list of lands entered in St. Clair county, copied from auditors' books; also list of school lands sold and a list of swamp lands in 1850.

Surveyors' Record, 1829–date, 8 v.

Original surveys and plats by county surveyor are recorded.

Incorporation Record, 1872–date, 12 v.

This is a record of the incorporation and charter of various companies. It gives charter, statement as to the purpose, capital stock, number of shares, subscribers, etc.

Town Collectors' Bond Record, 1884–date, 1 v.

Soldiers' Discharge Record, 1864–1903, 1 v.

Assessors' Plats: Lands North, 2 v.; Lands South, 1 v.

These are plats of tracts of lands in county.

Coroners' Inquests, 1866–date, 32 f.b., in vault.

Index to Coroners' Inquests, 1866–date, 2 v.

Coroners' Record, 1885–date, 5 v.

SALINE COUNTY[1]

Saline county was set off in 1847 from Gallatin; the county seat is Harrisburg. The courthouse is not fireproof. The walls are of brick and the floors in the halls are tiled; but the inside walls and ceilings are lath and plaster and the fittings wooden. Steam heat and electric light are used. The vaults are large with flat stone ceilings and two-foot brick walls; the doors and windows are protected by double steel doors. The ceiling of one vault, however, is cracked from end to end. Some old tax records and circuit court files are in a dusty basement vault.

County Clerk

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' AND SUPERVISORS' RECORDS

County Court Order Book, 1848–1872, 4 v. (A–D)

County Commissioners' Record, 1874–1895, 3 v. (A–C)

Supervisors' Record, 1896–date, 1 v. (D)

Road Petitions, c. 1874–1887, 2 f.b.

These include petitions for roads or alterations in roads with reports of road viewers and supervisors.

Supervisors' Papers, 1874–1903, 14 f.b., in basement vault.

These are mainly claims against the county, but there are also a few road petitions among them dating c. 1874–1880.

COUNTY COURT RECORDS

County Court Record, 1872–date, 10 v. (A–J)

After 1883 common law and criminal records are kept in separate volumes which are numbered consecutively.

Recognizance and Confession Record, 1883–date, 1 v.

The volume is labeled "Criminal Record 3."

County Court Files, 1872–date, in basement vault.

The files for 1872–1904 fill 62 f.b.; the later ones are in cracker boxes.

Drainage Records: Bankston District, 1910–date, 1 v.; Eldorado District, 1910–date, 1 v.; West Harrisburg District, 1911–date, 1 v.; Rector Special District, 1911–date, 1 v.; Black Land [?] District, 1904–date, 1 v.

[1] Examined April, 1912.

Insanity Record, 1886–date, 3 v.
The record contains findings of jury or commission, and order.

County Court Judges' Docket, 1872–date, 7 v. (A–G)

Judgment Docket, 1872–date, 3 v. (A–C)

Execution Docket, 1872–date, 2 v. (1–2)

Insanity Docket, 1893–date, 1 v. (1)
The docket contains name of person, names of petitioner and witnesses, names of jurors, physicians, etc., and order of court.

County Court Fee Book, 1872–date, 10 v.

TAXATION RECORDS

Township School Record, 1856–1892, 1 v. (A); 1893–date, 1 v. (B)
The record contains plats of school districts.

Assessors' Books, 1857–1910, in basement; 1911, in vault.

Collectors' Books, 1853–date, in vault.

Board of Review Record, 1899–date, 1 v. (1)

Board of Review Complaint Docket, 1899–1907, 1 v.

Tax Judgment Record, 1878–1879, 2 v. (D–E)

Tax Sale Record, 1857–1879, 4 v. (B–E)

Record of Forfeited Lands, 1871–1879, 2 v. (D–E)

Tax Judgment, Sale, Redemption, and Forfeiture Record, 1881–date, 7 v.

Record of Affidavits for Tax Deeds, 1882–date, 3 v. (B–D)

RECORDS OF VITAL STATISTICS, ETC.

Marriage Record, December, 1847–September, 1877, 3 v. (A–C)
The record gives names of parties, date of marriage and certificate by person officiating.

Marriage License Record, 1877–date, 8 v. (D–K)
This is a record of licenses granted and certificates of marriage, showing names and ages of parties.

Marriage Record (minors), September, 1877–1909, 3 v. (B–D)
The volumes contain a record of license, consent of parent or guardian, and certificate of marriage. After 1909 marriages of minors are recorded in the same volume as those of adults.

Register of Marriages, 1878–1909, 2 v. (A–B)
The board of health form was used; the record has been discontinued.

Record of Applications for Marriage License, 1878–date.

Marriage Licenses, 1877–1897, 26 f.b., in basement vault.
The older ones are packed in boxes.

Register of Births, 1878–date, 4 v. (A–D); Index, 1 v. (A)

Register of Deaths, 1878–date, 3 v. (1–3); Index, 1 v. (A)

Record of Physicians' Certificates, 1878–date, 2 v. (1–2)

Register of Physicians and Accoucheurs, 1878–date, 1 v.

Census Schedules, 1860, 1 folio, in basement vault, top shelf, east side.

Abstracts of Votes at Elections, 1860–1888, 3 f.b., in basement vault; 1902–date, 1 f.b., in office.

County Clerk—Probate

PROBATE COURT RECORDS

Probate Record, 1850–date, 10 v. (B–K)
Record of court orders and decrees, record of petitions for letters, for allowance of claims, for sale of real estate to pay debts, etc. are included.

Probate Files, 1848–date, 97 f.b.

DOCKETS AND FEE BOOKS

Probate Judges' Docket, 1880–date, 4 v. (1–4)

Probate Judgment Docket, 1874–date, 4 v. (B–E)

Probate Claim Docket, 1859–date, 3 v. (A–C)
The docket contains name of claimant and of estate, nature of claim and amount, and judgment of court.

Probate Fee Book, 1869–date, 8 v. (A–H)

RECORDS OF WILLS, BONDS, AND LETTERS

Will Record, 1847–date, 2 v. (A–B)

Administrators' Record, 1859–date, 6 v. (A–F)

Executors' Record, 1900–date, 2 v. (A–B)

Executors' and Guardians' Record, 1 v.
The volume contains executors' bonds and letters, 1860–1899, and guardians' bonds and letters, 1859–1872.

Guardians' and Conservators' Record, 1886–1907, 1 v.
The record contains letters, oaths and bonds of guardians and conservators.

Guardians' Record, 1877–date, 3 v. (E–G)

INVENTORIES, APPRAISEMENTS, AND SALE BILLS

Inventory, Appraisement and Sale Bill Record, 1848–1866, 3 v. (A–C)

Appraisement Records, 1865[?]–date.

Inventory Record, 1865–date, 4 v. (A–D)

Sale Record, 1866–date, 3 v. (A–C)

REPORT RECORDS, ETC.

Administrators', Executors' and Guardians' Report Record, 1906–date, 2 v. (1–2)

Estate and Guardians' Ledger, 1884–1904, 3 v. (D–F)

Guardians' Ledger, 1904–1906, 1 v. (G)

Estate Ledger, 1902–1909, 1 v. (G)

The above is a record of the current accounts of guardians and administrators, which now are kept in the probate record.

Widows' Relinquishment and Selection Record, 1874–1909, 3 v. (A–C)

Widows' Award and Selection Record, 1909–date, 1 v. (B)

Real Estate Sale Record, 1872–1885, 1 v. (B)

This is a record of petitions to sell real estate to pay debts, order of court upon them, and reports of sales.

Clerk of the Circuit Court

CIRCUIT COURT RECORDS

Order Book, 1848–1872, 4 v. (A–D)

Common law, chancery, and criminal records are included.

Chancery Record, 1867–date, 17 v. (D–T)

Divorce Record, 1897–date, 1 v. (A)

Common Law Record, 1872–date, 8 v. (E–L)

Criminal Record, 1873–date, 4 v. (E–H)

Recognizance Record, 1870–1899, 2 v. (A–B)

Index to Court Records, 1858–date, 4 v. each for plaintiff and defendant.

Circuit Court Files: Chancery, 1848–1872, 22 f.b., in vault; 1872–date, 80 f.b., in office; Common Law, 1884–date, 52 f.b., in office; Criminal, 1904–date, 7 f.b., in office.

The old law and criminal files are in the basement vault in various boxes unarranged; the dates are c. 1848–1884 for law, 1848–1904 for criminal.

Index to Court Files, 1873–1909, 1 v. (1)

DOCKETS, FEE BOOKS, ETC.

Judges' Docket, 1848–1909, 18 v. (A–R); 1909–date, loose-leaf system.
Judgment Docket, 1848–date, 7 v. (A–G)
Execution Docket, 1848–date, 3 v. (A–C)
Docket of Mechanics' Liens, 1887–date, 1 v. (A)
Justice of the Peace Transcript Record, 1852–date, 3 v. (A–C)
Fee Book, 1858–date, 17 v. (B–R)
Register of Grand and Petit Jurors, 1859–1872, 1 v.
Indictment Record, 1874–date, 2 v. (1–2)
States Attorneys' Report Record, 1873–date, 1 v. (A)

Circuit Clerk—Recorder

DEED AND MORTGAGE RECORDS

Entry Book, 1869–date, 7 v. (A–G)
Transcript of Records from Gallatin County, 1821–1849, 2 v.
These are transcripts of deeds, mortgages, etc., on record in Gallatin county which affect titles to lands in Saline.
Deed and Mortgage Record, 1847–date, 152 v. (A–Z, 1–126)
Up to 1860 (v. J) deeds and mortgages were recorded in same volume.
Release Record, 1893–date, 7 v. (1–7)
These are records of releases of mortgages.
Masters' Deed Record, 1910–date, 1 v. (E)
Lease Record, 1907–date, 2 v. (1–2)
General Index (grantor and grantee), 1848–1872, 2 v.
Township Index (a tract index with each volume indexed by grantor and grantee), 1873–1908, 34 v.
General Index (grantor and grantee), 1909–date, 2 v.
Index to Marginal Releases, 1905–date, 1 v. (1)
Chattel Mortgage Record, 1874–date, 35 v. (C–Z, 1–11)

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Record of United States Surveys, 1873, 1 v.
The volume is labeled "Field Notes" and contains descriptions of exterior and interior corners of sections and quarter-sections, and plats locating them.
Masters' Certificate of Sale Record, 1874–date, 3 v. (B–D)

Record of Election of Trustees, 1874–1910, 1 v. (A)

This is a record of election of trustees of lodges, churches, etc.

Town Collectors' Bond Record, 1890–date, 1 v. (1)

Stallion Register, 1910–date, 1 v.

Miscellaneous Record, 1887–date, 5 v. (A–E)

SANGAMON COUNTY[1]

Sangamon county was set off from Madison and Bond in 1821; the county seat is Springfield; there are separate recorders' and probate clerks' offices. The courthouse, which is located in a public square, is the old state capitol.

County Clerk

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' AND SUPERVISORS' RECORDS

County Commissioners' Court Record, 1821–1887, 13 v.

Supervisors' Record, 1887–date, 9 v.

Index to Commissioners' and Supervisors' Records, 1821–1840, 1 v.; 1821–1868, 1 v.

Supervisors' Proceedings, 1877–date, 99 f.b.

This is a file of printed minutes of the board.

County Commissioners' and Supervisors' Papers, 1821–date, 351 f.b.

Board of Justices' Record, 1850–1860, 1 v.

The volume is a kind of docket, kept by the county board, containing road petitions, county orders, etc. In attic, west room south side, third tier, sixth shelf.

Apprenticeship Papers, 1834–1864, 2 f.b. (960–961), in attic.

County Order Books, 1824–1868, 6 v., in attic, west room; 1885–date, 7 v. (7–14), in office

County Orders, Births and Deaths, 1904–date, 1 v.

Canceled County Orders and Jury Certificates, 1826–1829, f.b. "4494–4500"; 1873–1909, 1 box, in attic; 1904–date, in office.

Jury Warrants, 1871–date, 2 v.

Report of County Superintendent of Schools (as made to the board of supervisors), 1889–1894, 1 v.

Appropriations to Townships for Roads and Bridges, 1861–1895, 1 v.

COUNTY COURT RECORDS

Common Law Record, 1872–date, 19 v.

[1] Examined October, 1911.

Record of Confessions, 1880–1886, 1894–date, 2 v.
Recognizance Record, 1901–date, 2 v.
Recognizance Files, 1901–date, in office.
Plea Record, 1903–date, 3 v.
The volumes record pleas of guilty in criminal cases.
Index to Court Records, 1872–date: Defendant, 4 v.; Plaintiff, 3 v.
County Court Files, 1872–date: Common Law, 97 f.b.; Criminal, 72 f.b.
Index to Criminal Files, 1 v.
Paving Record, Springfield, 1882–1883, 1 v.
Special Assessment Record, 1878–date, 3 v.
County Court Record (insolvent and insanity cases), 1883–1895, 3 v.
Insolvent Case Papers, 1832–1857, 2 f.b. ("2439–48," "4144–46"), in attic; 1890–1899, 16 f.b., in office.
Insanity Record, 1893–date, 4 v.
Insane and Conservators' Record, 1878–1893, 1 v.; 1888–date, 2 v.
The volumes record petition, verdict of jury, and cause of insanity.
Insanity Files, 1851–date, 18 f.b.
Index to Insanity Files, 1 v.
Naturalization Record, 1860–1906, 8 v.
Naturalization Papers, 1860–1904, 32 f.b., in attic, west room.
Miscellaneous Naturalization Papers [county court(?)], 1840–1843, 1853–1862, 1868,in attic, east room, northeast corner.
Judges' Docket: Common Law and Criminal, 1872–1882, 1887–1890; Common Law, 1891–date, 14 v.; Criminal, 1891–date, 15 v.
General or Clerks' Docket, 1905–date, 2 v.
County Court Docket, 1860–1861, 1868–1874, 2 v., in attic.
Judgment Docket, 1872–date, 5 v.
Execution Docket, 1872–date, 2 v.
Executions, 1851 *et seq.*, 1 f.b.; 1872–date, 6 f.b.
Insanity Docket, 1893–date, 3 v.
Contents: names of petitioner and witnesses, jury's verdict, date, disposition of insane person.
Juvenile Court Judges' Docket, 1903–date, 3 v.
Judges' Docket, Naturalization, 1876–1906, 2 v.

The docket lists name of applicant, when application was granted, nativity and age of applicant, witnesses and remarks.

County Court Fee Book, 1873–date, 8 v.

TAXATION RECORDS

Abstract of Taxes, 1869–1872, 4 v., in attic.

Abstract of Assessment of Taxes, 1877–date, 2 v.

Tabular Statement of Assessment and Taxes, 1896–date, 2 v.

Tabular Statements Showing Footings of Assessors' Books for the various towns, 1895–1901, in attic, west room; 1881, 1887, 1893, in east room.

Record of Abstract of Taxes, 1883–1905, 1 v.

Valuation of various lands, amount of tax, etc. are recorded.

Auditors' List of Taxable Lands, 1828–1848, in attic in f.b. "1621–32".

School Plats, 1884–date, 1 v.; 1865–date (files)

Road Plats, 1881–1905 (files); Villages, c. 1880 (files)

Town Plats, 1 v.

Corporation Tax Levies, 1870, 1878–1882, 1886–1888, 1889–1899, 5 f.b., in attic; by incorporated towns and villages, 1900–date, in office.

Town Tax Levies, 1889–1898.

Road and Bridge Tax Levies, 1880–1898, 4 f.b., in attic.

School Tax Levies, 1859–1899, 21 f.b., in attic; 1900–date, in office.

Amount and purpose of levy and poll book of election to vote it are given.

Land Book (record of original entries), 1821–1850, 1 v.

Entries of Conveyances, 1872, 1 v.

Illinois Central Railroad List of Lands Sold, 1866–1871, 1 f.b. ("1625–32"), in attic.

Road Tax Lists, 1901–1905, 2 f.b.

Earlier files up to 1873 in attic.

Railroad Schedules of Values, 1863–1874, 2 f.b., in attic, west room; 1874–1894, in box, in attic, east room.

Assessors' Books, 1829–date, 1398 v.: Lands, 1829–date; Personal Property, 1830, 1840, 1842, 1845–date.

Collectors' Books, 1849–date, 1216 v.

Railroad Tax Book, 1878, in attic, east room; 1881–date, in attic west room, and office.

County Board of Review, Minutes of Meetings, 1899–1902, 2 v.; 1904–date, 2 v.; Papers, 1903–date, 4 f.b.
Board of Review Complaints [Docket(?)], 1899–date, 2 v.
Board of Review, Original Complaints, 1899, 2 f.b., in attic.
List of Lands (on which taxes are due), 1833–1845, in attic in f.b. "1621–32"
Delinquent Lands Sold for Taxes, 1849–1860, 6 f.b.
Delinquent Tax Records, 1867–1900, in attic; also 1860, 1863, 1873–1879, 1880–1901, in attic.
Tax Objections, 1875–1906, 24 f.b., in attic; 1909–date, 7 f.b.
Tax Judgment, Sale, and Redemption Record, 1833–date, 37 v.
List of Forfeitures, 1843–1849, 1 v.; 1872–1880, 3 v., in attic.
Abatement and Forfeiture Record, 1882–1896, 15 v., in attic; 1896–date, 14 v., in office.
Index to Tax Sale Records, 1 v.
Record of Evidence for Tax Deeds, 1873–1908, 3 v.
Affidavits for Tax Deeds, 1848–1897, 8 f.b.
Treasurers' and Collectors' Accounts, 1861–1867, 1 v.; 1870–1886, 3 v., in attic; 1891–1899, 2 v., in attic.
Treasurers' and Collectors' Receipts for Taxes, 1872–1893, 1 v.

RECORDS OF VITAL STATISTICS

Marriage Record, 1821–date, 9 v.; Index, 6 v.
The record gives number, names, when and by whom married.

Register of Marriages, 1877–date, 7 v.
Board of health form.

Applications for Marriage Licenses, 1878–date.
Earlier ones are tied in bundles.

Original Marriage Licenses, 1824–date, 191 f.b.
Register of Births, 1877–date, 10 v.; Index, 7 v.
Register of Still Births, 1877–date, 1 v.; Reports to 1910, 2 f.b.
Register of Deaths, 1877–date, 10 v.; Index, 6 v.
Birth Reports, 1877–date, 29 f.b.
Death Reports, 1877–date, 41 f.b.
Register of Physicians' Certificates, 1877–date, 1 v.; 1 v. for irregular entries.
Curran Township Census Returns, 1880, 1 v., in attic.
Agricultural Statistics, 1878, 1 v., in attic; 1900, 1 f.b. ("1674–84")

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Poll Books and Tally Sheets, 1821–1824, 1827–1828, 1830–1831, 1834–1891, 96 f.b., in attic.

Poll Books, for School Tax Levies, 1847–1854, in attic, f.b. "2439–2448."

Abstract of Votes, 1880–date, 1 f.b.

Abstracts for 1884, 1888, 1890 are in attic.

Ballot Register, 1892–date, 1 v.

Petitions nominating candidates for office, 1906–date, 4 f.b.

Poll Books, elections of 1892, 1896, 1897, 1900, 1902, 1903.

Register of County Officers, 1821–1872, 1 v.

The register lists name, office, date, election, date of commission, when qualified, and name of surety.

List of Township Officers Elected, 1875–date, 2 v.

Bonds of County Officers, 1881–1911, in files.

Official Bonds, 1822–1877, 8 f.b., in attic.

These are mainly justices' of the peace and constables' bonds.

Files of Appointment of Deputies to 1906.

Estray Record, 1827–date, 5 v.

The first two volumes are in the attic.

Estray Notices, 1824–1870, 10 f.b.

Militia Rolls, 1861, 1 f.b., in attic.

Patent Record, 1864–1870, 1 v.

School Commissioners' Papers: Sales of Land, 1833–1839, 1843–1844; Reports of Receipts and Loans of Money, 1833–1839, 1840–1853, f.b. "1621–32," "2449–54," "4144–46," in attic.

School Commissioners' Records: Accounts of School Lands Sold, 1833–1854, 2 v.; Account Book, 1833–1857, 2 v., in county superintendents' office.

Record of School Land Sales, 1832–1838, 1 v.

Horse Certificate Record, 1888–1910, 1 v.

County Clerks' Fee Register, 1888–1899, 2 v., in attic.

Register of Sheriffs' Fees, 1881–1882, 1 v.; 1885–1902, 3 v., in attic.

Justice Court Record, City of Springfield, 1895–1898, 1 v., in attic.

Pauper Record, 1892–1893, 1 v.

The volume records name, number in family, cause of poverty, age, and nativity.

Sparrow Certificates, 1891–1897, 8 f.b.; license to hunt, applications for, etc., 1903–date, in attic.
Plat Book of County, 1894, 1 v.
Railroad Maps of County, c. 1900, 1 v.

Clerk of the Probate Court

PROBATE COURT RECORDS

Probate Court Record, 1821–date, 87 v.
Till about 1850 the first series contains all probate records.
Probate Court Minutes, 1837–1853, 2 v., labeled "Record," in attic.
Adjustment Day, Record of Claims Allowed, 1889–date, 6 v.
Probate Minute Books, 1849–1900, in attic; 1901–date, 14 v.
Guardianship Files, 1821–date, 132 f.b.
Index to Guardians and Conservators, 1821–date, 1 v.
Minors' General Index, 1847–date, 2 v.
General Index to Estates, 1821–date, 6 v.
Index to Estates, 1821–date, 1 v.
Index to files.

DOCKETS AND FEE BOOKS

Probate Claim and Judgment Docket, 1878–date, 8 v.
Claim Docket, 1881–1904, 1 v.
The docket gives name of claimant, name and number of estate, date and amount of judgment.
Probate Judgment Docket, 1850–1869, 1 v., in attic.
Probate Claim Docket, 1867–1869, 1 v., in attic.
Judges' Probate Docket, 1874–1897, 20 v., in attic; 1898–date, 10 v. (21–30)
Register of Administrators, Executors, Guardians, and Bondsmen, 1893–1896, 1 v.
Probate Fee Book, 1849–date, 19 v.

RECORDS OF WILLS, BONDS, AND LETTERS

Record of Wills, 1850–date, 16 v.
Record of Administrators' Bonds, Oaths, and Letters, 1857–date, 7 v.
Record of Executors' Bonds and Letters, 1872–date, 5 v.

Record of Conservators' Petitions, Bonds, and Letters, 1886–1898, 1 v.

Record of Guardians' Bonds and Letters, 1858–1872, 1 v., in attic; 1872–date, 5 v.

Miscellaneous Bond Record, 1879–1907, 1 v.

INVENTORIES, APPRAISEMENTS, SALE BILLS, ETC.

Record of Inventories, 1856–date, 23 v.

Record of Appraisement Bills, 1879–date, 10 v.

Personal Property Sale Record, 1876–date, 5 v.

Guardians' Report Record, 1879–date, 6 v. (6–11)

Record of Settlements, 1877–date, 6 v.

Final Report Record of Administrators and Executors, 1879–date, 12 v.

Insolvent Estate Record, 1878–date, 1 v.

Widows' Relinquishment and Selection Record, 1879–1905, 2 v.

Clerk of the Circuit Court

CIRCUIT COURT RECORDS

Circuit Court Record: Common Law, Criminal, and Chancery, 1821–1868, 25 v.; Chancery, 1868–date, 79 v.; Common Law, 1868–date, 49 v. (26–74); Criminal, 1884–1894, 3 v.

Record of Foreclosure Decrees, 1884–1895, 1 v.

Record of Masters' Decree of Sale, 1884–1895, 1 v.

Record of Confessions, 1878–date, 1 v.

Default Record, 1865–1893, 2 v.

Complete Record, Chancery, 1835–1863, 3 v.

Circuit Court Files (common law, criminal and chancery), 1821–date, 1067 f.b.

Index to Court Records, 1857–date, 24 v.

Circuit Court Minutes, 1841–1895, c. 30 v., in attic, east room.

Naturalization Record: Final Certificate, 1858–1901, 2 v.; Declaration of Intention, 1868–1903, 1 v.

DOCKETS AND FEE BOOKS

General Docket, 1885–date, 10 v.

Circuit Court Docket, 1821–1832, 1 v.; 1836–1844, 2 v.; 1849–date, 186 v.

Judgment Docket, 1878–date, 11 v.
Execution Docket, 1822–1846, 1850–date, 8 v.
One volume is in the attic.

Executions, 1822–date, 73 f.b.
Docket of [Mechanics'] Liens, 1887–date, 3 v.
Judges' Naturalization Docket, 1869–1903, 1 v.
Fee Book, 1833–date, 53 v.
Volumes for 1833–1835 and 1857–1887 are in attic.

Fee Bill Docket, 1858–1894, 2 v., in attic; 1873–1896, 1 v., in attic.
The docket contains judgments for fee bills, date and number of judgment, names of parties, amount of judgment, and by what officer delivered.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Record of Transcripts from Justice of the Peace Dockets, 1847–date, 6 v. (A–F)
Volumes A, B, D and E are in attic, east room.

Index to Transcripts from Justice of the Peace Dockets, 1836–1890, 1 v., in attic.
Transcripts from Justice of the Peace Dockets, 1832–1890, 11 f.b.
Record of Sheriffs' and Masters' Certificates [?], 1841–date, 5 v.
Index to Certificates, 2 v.
Jury Warrants, 1840–date.
The warrants give number, order, date, amount, number of days served and signature. All prior to 1900 are in attic.

Habeas Corpus Petitions, 1874–1884, 1 f.b.
Coroners' Inquests, 1863–1888, 1 f.b.
Soldiers' Discharge Record, 1865–1892, 1 v.
Plat Book, 1894.
Plat Book no. 1, Sangamon County, 1886–1905, 1 v.
Record of Writs, 1872–1898, 6 v., in attic.
Register of Prisoners, 1880–1886, 1905–1906, 9 v., in attic.
The register contains name and description of prisoner, charge, and when and how disposed of.

Circuit Clerks' Register of Fees, 1899–1904, 2 v.
Stenographic Notebooks, 1069, in attic.

RECORDER

Entry Book, 1885–date, 16 v.

Land Record (tax judgment record), 1839–1849, 1 v. (A)
Deed Record, 1822–date, 203 v. (A–Z, AA–ZZ, 1–151)
Volumes A–F have been copied.
Mortgage Record, 1855–date, 227 v.
Plat Book, 1885–date, 8 v. (2–9)
Index to Deeds, 1822–date, 19 v. each for grantor and grantee.
Index to Mortgages, 1855–date, 15 v. each for mortgagor and mortgagee.
Index to Plats, 1821–date, 1 v.
Index to Mine Plats, 1 v.
Index to Marginal Releases, 1907–date, 1 v.
Index to miscellaneous records, 1903–date, 1 v. each for grantor and grantee.
Index to Tracts, 1 v.
Original Entry Book, 1823–1839, 1 v., in attic.
Chattel Mortgage Record, 1868–date, 163 v. (26–169, A1–A19)
Chattel Mortgage Index, 1898–date, 4 v.
Surveyors' Record, 1841–date, 2 v.
Record of Collectors' Bonds and Releases, 1900–date, 2 v.

SCHUYLER COUNTY[1]

Schuyler county was organized in 1825 from territory attached to Pike and Fulton; the county seat is Rushville. The courthouse is located at one side of a public square. It is fairly close to other buildings and probably is not fireproof. Each office has a small interior vault that is apparently fireproof. The bulk of the records in each office, however, are in office vaults of questionable safety. A part of the circuit clerk's filing material is wood and pasteboard—otherwise both offices have modern equipment.

County Clerk

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' AND SUPERVISORS' RECORDS

County Commissioners' and Supervisors' Record, 1825–date, 10 v. (A–C, A–G); Papers, 1838–1840, 10 f.b.

Register of County Orders, 1825–1841, 1 v.; 1825–1854, 1 v.; 1835–1843, 1 v.; 1845–1856, 1 v.; 1854–1859, 1 v.; 1865–1880, 2 v. (B–C); 1885–date, 3 v. (D–F)

COUNTY COURT RECORDS

County Court Record, 1872–date, 2 v.

Record of Defaults, 1872–1889, 1 v.

County Court Files, 1872–date, 25 f.b.

Insane and Conservators' Record, 1871–date, 2 v. (A–B)

Naturalization Record: Declaration of Intention, 1879–1896, 1 v.; Final Certificate, 1880–1902, 1 v.

Court Docket, 1899–date, 2 v.

Clerks' Docket, 1899–date, 2 v.

Judgment and Execution Docket, 1872–date, 2 v. (A–B)

County Court Fee Book, 1872–date, 3 v. (A, D, F)

List of Jurors, 1835–1863, 1 v.; 1894–date, 1 v.

TAXATION RECORDS

School Plats, 1 v.

[1] Examined July–August, 1912; reëxamined April, 1914.

Land Entry Book, 1817–1840, 1 v.
Assessors' Books and Collectors' Books, 1835–date.
Railroad Tax Book, 1871–1881, 1 v.; 1909–date, 1 v. (2)
Board of Review Record, 1899–date, 2 v.
Board of Review Complaint Docket, 1899–date, 1 v.
Tax Judgment Record, 1850–1879, 3 v.
Tax Sale and Redemption Record, 1834–1835, 1 v.; 1834–1839, 1 v.; 1835–1843, 1 v.; 1835–1848, 1 v.; 1839–1846, 1 v.; 1846, 1 v.; 1847–1863, 1 v.; 1847–1869, 1 v.; 1866–1873, 1 v.; 1874–1879, 1 v.
Tax Judgment, Sale, Redemption, and Forfeiture Record, 1882–date, 4 v.
Record of Lands Forfeited to the State, 1865–1879, 1879 *et seq.*, 1 v.
Record of Affidavits for Tax Deeds, 1849–date, 3 v.

RECORDS OF VITAL STATISTICS

Marriage Register, 1825–1862, 2 v. (1–2); 1878–date, 5 v. (A–E); Male Index to "A," 1 v.
The board of health form is used in v. A–E.
Record of Applications for Marriage License, 1879–date, 8 v. (A–D, 3–6)
Register of Births, 1878–date, 5 v.
Register of Deaths, 1878–date, 2 v.
Record of Physicians' Certificates, 2 v.
Register of Physicians and Accoucheurs, 1877–date, 1 v.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Abstract of Votes, 1847–1900, 3 v.
Election Returns, c. 1850–1870, several envelopes.
Tally Sheets and Poll Books, 1850–1878, 30 f.b.
Election Abstracts, 1882–date.
Register of County and Town Officers, 1826–1866, 1 v.; 1866–date, 1 v. (B)
Assessors' Bond Record, 1899–date, 1 v.
Justices' of the Peace and Constables' Bond Record, 1878–date, 1 v.
Estray Record, 1827–1845, 1 v.; 1845–1862, 1 v.; 1865–1892, 1 v.
Record of Ear Marks, 1826–1873, 1 v.

Militia Roll Record, 1861–1862, 1 v.
Swamp Land Record, 1852–1860, 1 v.
Register of Receipts and Expenditures, 1897–date, 1 v.
School Trustees' Record (petitions for sale of school lands, surveys, and sales), 1832–1851, 1 v.; 1834–1850, 1 v.; 1840–1862, 1 v.; 1845–1846, 2 v.

County Clerk—Probate

PROBATE COURT RECORDS

Probate Order Book, 1850–date, 13 v. (A–M)
Probate Court Record [?], 1855–1856, 1 v.
Probate Files, 1851 [?]–date, 102 f.b.

DOCKETS AND FEE BOOKS

Probate Judges' Docket, 1869–1904, 8 v. (B–F, and 3 earlier unlettered v.); 1904–date, 3 unlettered v.
"Judges' Docket," 1893–1902, 3 v.
Probate Claim Docket, 1859–date, 5 v. (A–E)
Probate Judgment Docket, 1830–1840, 1854–1872, 2 v.
Estate Ledger, 1851–1859, 1 v.
Probate Docket and Ledger, 1861–date, 5 v. (A–E)
Guardians' Docket, 1872–date, 2 v.
Probate Court Docket, 1862–1873, 1 v.
Miscellaneous Docket, 1 v., contents: Probate Claims, 1838–1849; Judgment Docket, 1847–1849; Insolvent Debtors' Orders, 1838–1849.

The dockets are badly confused and inadequately labeled. There are about a dozen justice of the peace dockets from 1825 to 1860 scattered among probate and other dockets.

Probate Fee Book, 1857–date, v. A–M; current, 1 v. (N) administrators, and 1 v. (N) guardians and conservators.

RECORDS OF WILLS, BONDS, AND LETTERS

Record of Wills, 1827–1870, 3 v.; 1870–date, 6 v. (A–F)
Administrators' Record, 1857–1872, 2 v.; 1872–date, 3 v. (C–E)
Executors' Record, 1869–date, 3 v. (A–C)
Guardians' Record, 1857–1869, 1 v.; 1869–date, 4 v. (B–E)
Miscellaneous Record, 1874–date, 3 v. (A–C)

INVENTORIES, APPRAISEMENTS, AND SALE BILLS

Inventory, Appraisement, and Sale Record, 1827–1833, 1 v.; 1838–1844, 1 v.; 1851–1869, 2 v.

Inventory Records, 1869–date.

Conservators' Inventory Record, 1894–date, 1 v.

Guardians' Inventory Record, 1872–date, 1 v.

Appraisement Record, 1869–date, 5 v. (A–E)

Sale Record, 1869–date, 3 v. (A–C)

REPORT RECORDS, ETC.

Report Record, 1850–1852, 1 v.; 1852–date, 9 v. (A–I)

Widows' Relinquishment and Selection Record, 1893–date, 1 v.

Clerk of the Circuit Court

CIRCUIT COURT RECORDS

Circuit Court Record, 1825–1834, 1 v.; 1834–1838, 1 v.; Chancery, 1838–1846, 1 v. (A); 1841–1843, 1 v.; 1843–1849, 2 v. (E–F); 1850–1860, 1 v. (G); Common Law, 1859–date, 4 v. (H, [defaults], I, K and L); Chancery, 1856–date, 12 v. (C–H, J–O); Criminal, 1881–date, 2 v. (K–L)

Index to Court Record, 1858–date, 2 v. each for plaintiff and defendant.

Recognizance Record, 1904–date, 1 v.

Circuit Court Files, in 101 large f.b. and 80 small pasteboard files.

The earliest noted, those of the thirties, are indexed merely by number in such a way that dates cannot easily be told. An excellent system of preserving these is employed; a dozen case papers in the old wrappers are put into one closed-end filing envelope.

Naturalization Record, 1859–1890, 2 v.

DOCKETS AND FEE BOOKS

Judges' Dockets, 1842–1843, 1 v.; 1849–1854, 2 v.; 1856–1857, 1 v.; 1858, 1 v.; 1859–1860, 1 v.; 1861–1862, 1 v.; 1867–1881, 7 v.; 1884 *et seq.*, 1 v.; 1891 *et seq.*, 1 v.; 1896–1903, 1 v.; 1903–date, 3 v. (7–9)

Clerks' Docket, 1842, 1 v.; 1845–1846, 1 v.; 1847–1859, 1 v.; 1852, 1 v.; 1855–1856, 1 v.; 1856–1857, 1 v.; 1859–1860, 1 v.; 1870, 1 v.; 1878, 1 v.; 1886, 1 v.; 1896, 1 v.; 1900–date, 4 v.

A large number of rough dockets of the forties and fifties without distinctive markings have not been included.

Judgment Docket, 1830–date, 5 v. (A–E)
Execution Docket, 1838–date, 4 v. (B–E)
Executions, c. 1835–date, 16 f.b.
Lien and Satisfaction Docket (docket of mechanics' liens), 1888–date, 1 v. (D)
Naturalization Docket, 1869–1892, 1 v.
Fee Books, Common Law, Criminal and Chancery, 6 v. (F–K, 1861, *et seq.*); Common Law, 3 v. (L–N); Chancery and Criminal, 2 v. (L, N); also volumes for the following dates, 1831–1834, 1834–1838, 1838–1840, 1837–1841, 1842–1846 (B), 1847–1849, 1849–1852, 1856, 1858–1859 (D), 1859–1860.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Justice of the Peace Transcript Record, 1847–date, 4 v. (A–D)
Transcripts from Justices of the Peace, 1835–date, in large envelopes.
Miscellaneous Papers, 1835–date.
Fee bills, naturalization papers, collectors' bonds, etc.
Jury Certificate Record, 1880–date, 1 v. (A)
Jury List, 1876–1907, 1 v.
States Attorneys' Report Record, 1875–date, 1 v.
Circuit Clerks' Registers of Fees, 1872–1879, 1 v.; 1881–date,

Circuit Clerk—Recorder

DEED AND MORTGAGE RECORDS

Entry Book, 1825–1844, 3 v.; 1850–date, 12 v. (1–12)
Original Entry Book, 1 v.
Deed Record, 1826–date, 96 v. (A–Z, 26–96, v. I omitted)
Transcript Deed Record, 1814–1832, 6 v.
Mortgage Record, 40 v. (A–Z, 100–113)
Town Plat Record, 1 v.
Grantor and Grantee Index.
Tract Index, 1824–date, 6 v.
Chattel Mortgage Record, 1856, 1 v.; 1859–date, 25 v. (C–Z, 1); 1900–date, 2 v.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Record of Sheriffs' and Masters' Certificates of Levy, Sale, and

Redemption, 1831 [1841?]–1864, 1 v.; 1870–1908, 1 v. (B); 1898–date, 1 v. (D); current, 1 v. (E)

Surveyors' Record, 1870–1876, 1 v.

"Nondescript Record," 1872–date, 4 v. (A–D)

Record of Soldiers' Discharges, 1865 *et seq.*, 1 v.

Record of Town Treasurers' Bonds, 1890–date, 1 v. (1)

Record of Town Collectors' Bonds, 1863–1879, 1 v.; 1869–1902, 2 v. (B–C)

Stallion Register, 1911–date, 1 v.; Renewals, 1912–date, 1 v.

SCOTT COUNTY[1]

Scott county was set off from Morgan in 1839; the county seat is Winchester. The courthouse is located in a square. The upstairs vaults are diminutive, but except for pasteboard and wooden filing material, seem fairly safe. A few book records and papers from both offices are in a downstairs room.

County Clerk

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' AND SUPERVISORS' RECORDS

County Commissioners' Record, 1839–date, 7 v. (A–G)
Minutes of the County Board, 1877–1880, 1 v.
Register of County Orders, 1891–1899, 1 v.

COUNTY COURT RECORDS

County Court Record, 1872–date, 3 v.
County Court Files, 1872–date, 76 f.b.
Insane and Conservators' Record, 1878–date, 2 v.
Judges' Docket, 1872–date, 2 v.
Judgment Docket, 1873–1874, 1 v.
Judgment and Execution Docket, 1874–date, 3 v. (1–3)
County Court Fee Book, 1872–date: Common Law, 2 v.; Criminal, 2 v.
Docket of Official Bonds, 1895–date, 2 v.

TAXATION RECORDS

Auditors' Transcript of Land Entries, 1836–1840, 1 v.
Record of Road Districts, 1839–1870, 1 v.
Assessors' Books, 1 v. each, 1843, 1844, 1845, 1849, 1857, 1859, 1860, 1867–date.
Collectors' Books, 1843, 1846–date.
Board of Review Record, 1900–date, 1 v.
Tax Judgment Record, 1840–1847, 1 v.; 1864–1880, 2 v.

[1] Examined July, 1912; reëxamined April, 1914.

Tax Sale Record, 1841–1850, 1 v.; 1850–1880, 2 v.

The first volume also contains the records of a "Legislative Club" of Winchester, 1841–1842.

Tax Judgment, Sale, Redemption, and Forfeiture Record, 1880–date, 2 v.

Record of Affidavits for Tax Deeds, 1852–date, 2 v.

RECORDS OF VITAL STATISTICS

Register of Marriages, 1839–1873, 1 v. (A1); 1874–date, 5 v. (A–E)

Register of Marriages, 1878–date, 1 v.

Record of Applications for Marriage License, 1878–date, 3 v. (A–C)

Register of Births, 1878–date, 3 v.

Register of Deaths, 1878–date, 3 v.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Election Returns, 1860–1877, in bundles in basement.

Official Bond Record, 1876–date, 2 v.

The record contains clerks', assessors' and justices' of the peace bonds.

Clerks' Accounts of Births and Deaths, 1902–1904, 1 v.

County Ledger, 1843–1853, 1 v.

Miscellaneous Files, 1840–1860, in bundles in basement.

These contain school schedules, certificates of levy, reports, etc.

Register of Receipts and Expenditures, 1873–date, 1 v.

County Clerk—Probate

PROBATE COURT RECORDS

Probate Entry Book, 1839–date, 21 v. (A–U)

This is a journal which includes appraisements and similar records.

Probate Record, 1841–1858, 1 v.

Probate Files, 1846–date, 193 f.b.

DOCKETS AND FEE BOOKS

Probate Judges' Docket, 1876–date, 8 v. (A–H)

Probate Judgment Record, 1859–1906, 4 v.

Probate Claims and Judgments against Estates, 1901–date, 2 v.

Probate Fee Book, 1856–1862, 1 v.; 1866–date, 6 v. (A–F)

RECORDS OF WILLS, BONDS, AND LETTERS

Record of Wills, 1835–date, 8 v. (A–H)
Administrators' Record, 1839–date, 5 v. (A–E)
The record contains letters, inventories, appraisements, and sale bills.
Guardians' Record, 1839–1866, 1 v.; 1867–date, 4 v. (C–F)
Miscellaneous Bond Record, 1853–1866, 1 v.; 1872–date, 2 v.
Bond Record, de Bonis Non, Will Annexed, 1906–date, 1 v.
Administrators' Record, Will Annexed, 1907–date, 1 v.

INVENTORIES, APPRAISEMENTS, AND SALE BILLS

Inventory Record, 1867–date, 2 v.
Appraisement Record, 1865–date, 4 v.
Sale Record, 1865–1869, 1 v.; 1874–date, 2 v. (B–C)
Report Record, 1879–1884, 1 v.
Widows' Relinquishment and Selection Record, 1903–date, 2 v.

Clerk of the Circuit Court

CIRCUIT COURT RECORDS

Common Law and Criminal Record, 1839–date, 9 v. (C–I, first 2 v. unlettered)
Chancery Record, 1839–date, 16 v. (A–N, extra v. C, and "D2"); current loose-leaf record.
Divorce Record, 1909–date, 1 v.
Default Record, 1870–1872, 1 v.
Circuit Court Files, 1860–date, 252 f.b.
Naturalization Record: Final Certificate, 1859–1894, Declaration of Intention, 1859–1904, 1 v.

DOCKETS, FEE BOOKS, ETC.

Circuit Court Docket, 1839–1859, 5 v.
General Docket, 1879–date, 2 v.
Judges' Docket, 1839–1849, 2 v.; 1860–1864, 1 v.; 1868–1870, 1 v.; 1871–1899, 24 v.; 1899–1904, c. 10 v.; 1904–date, 8 v.
Clerks' Docket, 1850–1862, 2 v.; 1872–1882, 1 v.; 1889 *et seq.*, 2 v.
Judgment Docket, 1839–1872, 2 v.
Execution Docket, 1839–1884, 2 v.
Judgment and Execution Docket, 1877–date, 3 v.

Fee Book, 1841–date, 16 v. (A–P)
Justice of the Peace Transcript Record, 1849–date, 5 v. (A–E)
Indictment Record, 1877–date, 3 v.
Circuit Clerks' Register of Receipts and Expenditures, 1873–1897, 2 v.

Circuit Clerk—Recorder

Entry Book, 1839–1850, 1 v.; 1850–date, 6 v. (A–F)
Deed Record, 1839–date, 46 v. (A–Z, 1–20)
Mortgage Record, 1839–date, 38 v. (A–Z, 1–12); loose-leaf current chattel mortgage record.
Grantor and Grantee Index, 1889–date, 2 v. each.
The office also has a tract index.
Record of Sheriffs' and Masters' Certificate of Levy, 1880–date, 3 v.
Record of Masters' Certificates of Sale and Purchase, 1840–date, 3 v.
Transcript of United States Surveys, 1 v.
Stallion Register, Renewals, 1911–date, 1 v.
Record of Soldiers' Discharges, 1865–1886, 1 v.
Miscellaneous Record, 1882–date, 2 v.

SHELBY COUNTY[1]

Shelby county was set off from Fayette in 1827; the county seat is Shelbyville. The courthouse is not fireproof and there are no vaults. In the office steel filing equipment is used. In a basement room are some old county clerks' records and files. There is also in another office a small overflow from the circuit clerk's office. A fire occurred in 1894.

County Clerk

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' AND SUPERVISORS' RECORDS

County Commissioners' and Supervisors' Record, 1860–date, 11 v. (D–O, v. N. omitted)

Earlier records are missing.

County Court Files and Supervisors' Papers, 1833–c. 1890, several hundred small pasteboard filingboxes, in basement.

List of County Orders, 1833–1861, 1 v., in basement.

COUNTY COURT RECORDS

County Court Record: Criminal, 1872–date, 4 v.; Common Law, 1872–date, 4 v.; Default, 1872–1906, 2 v.; Judgment by Confession, 1896–date, 2 v.

County Court Files (common law and criminal), 1872–date, 217 f.b.

These are partly in basement and partly in clerk's office.

Assignment Record, 1891–date, 3 v.

Voluntary Insolvency Record, 1872–1886, 1 v.

Adoption Record, 1886–date, 3 v.

Insanity Record, 1893–date, 2 v.

Naturalization Record: Declaration of Intention, 1878–1904, 1 v.; Final Certificate, 1876–1897, 1 v.; 1892–1901, 1 v.; 1904, 1 v.; Minors, 1904–1906, 1 v.

Judges' Docket, 1872–date, 7 v. (1–7)

Clerks' Docket, 1856–1908, 28 v. (1–28)

[1] Examined July, 1912; reëxamined April, 1914.

Judgment and Execution Docket, 1876–date, 3 v.
Execution Docket, 1896–date, 1 v.
Insanity Docket, 1893–date, 1 v.
County Court Fee Book: Common Law, 1874–date, 5 v. (A–E); Criminal, 4 v. (A–C, F); Common Law and Criminal, 1 v. (G); Insanity and Miscellaneous, 1911–date, 1 v.; Confession, 1894–date, 1 v.

TAXATION RECORDS

School Plats, 1900–date, 1 v.
Land Entry Book, 1835–date, 2 v.
Tax Books, 1849, 2 v.; 1847, 1848, 1850, 1851, 1852, 1857, 1 v. each.
Assessors' Books, 1853, 1855, 1857, 1859, 1 v. each; 1867–date.
Collectors' Books, 1854, 1862–date.
Refunding Book, 1873, 3 v.
Back Tax Record, 1889, 1 v.
Tax Judgment Record, 1849–1858, 1 v.; 1873–1880, 5 v.
Record of Sales for Taxes, 1847, 1 v.; 1859, 1 v.
Tax Sale Record, 1863–1870, 1 v.
Tax Forfeiture Record, 1878, 1 v.
Tax Judgment, Sale, Redemption, and Forfeiture Record, 1880–date, 21 v.
Record of Affidavits for Tax Deeds, 1893–date, 2 v.

RECORDS OF VITAL STATISTICS

Register of Marriages, 1854–date, 4 v.
Marriage Licenses, 1829–1878, 45 pasteboard boxes in county clerk's basement room.
Register of Births, 1877–date, 5 v.
Register of Deaths, 1877–date, 5 v.
Record of Physicians' Certificates, 1877–date, 2 v.
Register of Physicians and Accoucheurs, 1877[?]–date, 1 v.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Election Returns, c. 1852, in basement.
Record of Soldiers' Discharges, n.d., 1 v.
Justice of the Peace Dockets, c. 1835–1839, in basement.
There is one old merchants' account book of similar date in basement.

County Clerk—Probate

PROBATE COURT RECORDS

Probate Journal, 1839–1869, 9 v. (1–9); 1854–date, 23 v. (A–W)
Probate Judgment Record of Claims, 1871–date, 4 v. (A–D)

DOCKETS AND FEE BOOKS

Probate Docket, 1859–1873, 2 v.; 1870–1885, 3 v.; 1889–date, 6 v. (D–I)
Probate Claim and Judgment Docket, 1897–1898, 1 v.
Probate Fee Book, 1846–1848, 1 v.; 1867–1869, 1 v., both in basement; 1870–1877, 1 v. (A); Claims, 1878–date, 1 v. (B); Executors and Guardians, 1872–1877, 1 v. (C); Administrators and Executors, 1875–1881, 1 v. (E); Guardians, 1878–1883, 1 v. (E); 1882–1893, 2 v. (F–G); 1887–1909, 1 v. (H); 1895–date, 4 v. (J–M); current Administrators, 1 v. (N); current Guardians and Conservators, 1 v. (O); Insane and Conservators, 1898–1910, 1 v. (A); Conservators, 1910–date, 1 v. (B)

RECORDS OF WILLS, BONDS, AND LETTERS

Record of Wills, Appraisement and Sale Bills, 1867–date, 7 v. (A–G)
Administrators' Record, 1859–date, 13 v. (A–M)
Executors' Record, 1859–date, 4 v. (A–D)
Conservators' Record, 1878–date, 5 v. (A–E)
Guardians' Record, 1859–date, 9 v. (A–I)
Miscellaneous Bond Record, 1872–date, 3 v. (A–C)

INVENTORIES, APPRAISEMENTS, SALE BILLS, ETC.

Inventory, Appraisement, and Sale Record, 1868–date, 15 v. (10–24)
Guardians' Inventory Record, 1872–date, 2 v.
Conservators' Inventory Record, 1878–date, 5 v. (A–E)
Appraisement Record, 1872–date, 8 v. (A–H)
Sale Record, Personal Property, 1872–date, 4 v. (A–D)
Private Sale Record, 1880–date, 3 v. (A–C)
Guardians' Sale Record, 1880–date, 6 v. (A–F)
Estate Ledger, 1859–date, 11 v. (A–K)
Guardians' and Administrators' Report Record, 1870–date, 16 v. (A–M, including three G's and two H's)

Final Report Record, 1884–date, 16 v. (1–16)
Widows' Relinquishment and Selection Record, 1870–date, 9 v. (A–I)
Administrators' Sale Record, Real Estate, 1874–date, 6 v. (A–F)

Clerk of the Circuit Court

CIRCUIT COURT RECORDS

Circuit Court Record, 1828–1847, 1 v. (1); 1845–1854, 1 v. (B 3); 1855–1859, 2 v. (D–E); 1860–1886, 20 v. (G–Z); Chancery, 1886–date, 22 v. (1–22); Common Law, 1891–date, 5 v. (1–5); Criminal, 1886–date, 4 v. (1–4); Confession in Vacation, 1 v. (3), current.

Earlier volumes of confessions in vacation were said to exist but one was in the bindery and the other could not be located.

Circuit Court Files, 1827–date, 325 f.b.
Naturalization Record, 1855–1876, 1 v., for declaration of intention and final certificate.

DOCKETS, FEE BOOKS, ETC.

Judges' Docket, 1856–date, 28 v. (1–28)

Loose leaf since 1908.

Judgment and Execution Dockets, 7 v.

Volume A is supposed to be extant but could not be found; B was in process of rebinding; v. C–G are on the shelves.

Execution Docket, 1855–1868, 1 v.; 1869–date, 5 v. (A–E)
Mechanics' Lien Docket, 1890–date, 1 v.
Fee Book, 1842–date, 35 v. (1–35)
Justice of the Peace Transcript Record, 1858–date, 5 v. (1–5)
Indictment Record, 1873–date, 2 v. (A–B)

Circuit Clerk—Recorder

Entry Book, 1861–date, 15 v. (A–O)
Deed Record, 1827–date, 182 v. (1–182)
Mortgage Record, 1857–date, 85 v. (1–85)
Chattel Mortgage Record, 1862–date, 53 v. (1–53)
Record of Certificates of Sale, 1852–1858, 1 v.; 1852–date, 7 v.
Surveyors' Record, 1868–1909, 2 v.
Stallion Register, 1910–date, 2 v.

STARK COUNTY[1]

Stark county was set off from Knox and Putnam in 1839; the county seat is Toulon. Three county buildings are located in a public square. The two clerks occupy a small one-story brick building. The books are in offices which have single iron doors but are hardly fireproof. The filing material is partly steel, partly wood and pasteboard.

County Clerk

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' AND SUPERVISORS' RECORDS

County Commissioners' and Supervisors' Record, 1839–date, 5 v. (A–D, and 1 unnumbered); Files, 1839–date, 30 f.b.

Register of County Orders, 1880–date, 2 v.

Road Record, 1842–1854, 1 v.

COUNTY COURT RECORDS

County Court Record, 1872–date, 1 v.; Index, 2 v.

Insanity Record, "2," current.

County Court Files, 1872–date.

These are scattered through the office files and are indexed in 2 v.

Insane and Conservators' Record, 1880–date, 1 v.

Naturalization Record (declaration of intention and final certificate), 1864–1903, 2 v.

Naturalization Papers, 2 f.b.

Mothers' Pension Record: court order, 1 v.; account, 1 v., both current.

Judges' Docket, 1872–date, 1 v.

Execution Docket, 1872–date, 1 v.

Insanity Docket "15," 1893–date, 1 v.

County Court Fee Book, 1872–date, 2 v.

TAXATION RECORDS

Abstract of Assessment and Taxes, 1879–date, 5 v.

[1] Examined July-August, 1912; reëxamined April, 1914.

School District Plats, 1859–date, 1 v.
Road Tax Lists, 1839–date, 17 f.b.
School Tax Lists, 1845–date, 10 f.b.
Assessors' Books, 1850–date.
Collectors' Books, 1841–date.
Railroad Tax Book, 1874–date, 3 v.
Board of Review Record, 1899–date, 1 v.
Board of Review Complaint Docket, 1899–date, 1 v.
Delinquent Tax Lists, 1849, 1 v.; 1864–1865, 1 v.; 1850–1879, 3 v.
Tax Sale Record, 1840–1879, 3 v.
Auditors' Transcript of Tax Sales, 1823–1851, 1 v.
Tax Judgment, Sale, Redemption, and Forfeiture Record, 1880–date, 5 v.
Record of Affidavits for Tax Deeds, 1842–date, 4 v. (1–2, A–B)
County Collectors' Accounts, and County Treasurers' Accounts, 1873–date, 1 v. each.

RECORDS OF VITAL STATISTICS

Register of Marriage Licenses, 1839–date, 6 v. (1–6)
Marriage Licenses, 1839–date, 11 f.b.
Record of Applications for Marriage License, 1877–date, 12 v. (1–12)
Register of Births, 1877–date, 3 v.
Register of Deaths, 1878–date, 3 v.
Record of Physicians' Certificates, 1878–date, 2 v.
Register of Physicians and Accoucheurs, 1878–date, 1 v.
Record of Veterinary Licenses, 1899–date, 1 v.
Record of Architects' Licenses, 1910–date, 1 v.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Poll Books, 1839–recent dates, 16 f.b.
Town Assessors' Bond Record, 1898–date, 1 v.
Register of County Officials, 1873–date, 2 v.
Estray Record, 1839–1866, 2 v.
Estray Papers, 1839–1866, 2 v.
Record of Marks and Brands, 1840–1901, 1 v.
Register of Township Railroad Bonds, 1868, 1 v.
Wolf Bounty Affidavits, current.
Register of Receipts and Expenditures, 1874–date, 2 v.

County Clerk—Probate

PROBATE COURT RECORDS

Probate Order Book, 1840–1848, 1 v.; 1850–date, 15 v. (A–C, A, 1–11)
Probate Files, 1855–date, in 300 f.b. with county court files.

DOCKETS AND FEE BOOKS

Probate Judgment Docket, 1860–1861, 1 v. (A); 1860–date, 2 v., labeled "Judges' Docket."
Probate Judges' Docket, 1873–1877, 1 v.; v. 10, 11, 13, current.
Probate Fee Book, 1850–1878, 1 v.; 1849–date, 4 v. (A–D)

RECORDS OF WILLS, BONDS, AND LETTERS

Record of Wills, 1883–date, 3 v.
Administrators' Record, 1857–date, 4 v. (A, 1–3)
Executors' Record, 1858–date, 4 v. (A, 1–3)
Guardians' Record, 1858–date, 4 v. (A, 1–3)
Miscellaneous Bond Record, 1878–date, 1 v.

INVENTORIES, APPRAISEMENTS, SALE BILLS, ETC.

Inventory, Appraisement and Sale Bill Record, 1859–date, 6 v. (A–F)
Guardians' Inventory Record, 1870–date, 1 v.
Sale Record, 1872–date, 4 v. (1–4)
Report Record, 1875–date, 6 v. (1–6)
Guardians' Report Record, 1902–date, 1 v.
Widows' Relinquishment and Selection Record, 1887–date, 1 v.

Clerk of the Circuit Court

CIRCUIT COURT RECORDS

Circuit Court Record, 1839–date, 20 v. (A–T)
Common law, criminal, and chancery records are all in the same series.
Index to above, 2 v. each for plaintiff and defendant.
Circuit Court Files, 1839–date, 173 f.b.
Tax Judgment Record, 1839–1847, 1 v.
Naturalization Record (declaration of intention, final certificate, minors, etc.), 1874–1876, 1 v.

Judges' Docket, 1846–1865, 1 v.; 1856–date, 6 v.
Clerks' Docket, 1839–1858, 1 v.
Bar Docket, 1858–1871, 2 v.; 1872–1907, 3 v. (12–14)
Judgment Docket, 1859–date, 7 v. (A–G)
Docket of Mechanics' Liens, 1895–date, 1 v.
Fee Book, 1839–date, 11 v. (C–M)
Justice of the Peace Transcript Record, 1839–date, 2 v. (1–2)
Circuit Clerks' Register of Fees, 1873–date, 3 v.

Circuit Clerk—Recorder

Land Entry Book (entry book), 1842–date, 13 v. (A–M)
Mortgage Record, 1839 *et seq.*, 6 v. (A–F)
Deed and Mortgage Record, 1839–date, 97 v. (A–Z, 27–97); Index, 2 v. each for grantor and grantee.
Abstract Book, 12 v.
Record of Certificates of Levy and Purchase, 1842–date, 4 v. (1–4)
Surveyors' Record, 1839–date, 4 v. (1–4)
Town Collectors' Bond Record, 1878–date, 2 v.
Stallion Register, 1911–date, 1 v.; Renewals, 1 v.
School Commissioners' Record, 1842–1851, 1 v.

STEPHENSON COUNTY[1]

Stephenson county was set off from Winnebago and Jo Daviess in 1837; the county seat is Freeport. The courthouse is not fireproof. The records, however, are kept in vaults. The old collectors' books, etc., the circuit court files to 1857, and some less important records are in the basement.

County Clerk

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' AND SUPERVISORS' RECORDS

County Commissioners' Court Record, May, 1837–March, 1850, 1 v., labeled "County Record 1."

Supervisors' Record, November, 1850–date, 10 v.

General Index to Supervisors' Record, 1 v.

Record of Highways, 1842–1848, 1 v., in basement near door.

These are county commissioners' records regarding laying out of roads, appointment of viewers, overseers, etc.

Proceedings of the Jail Building Committee, February, 1876–July, 1877, 1 v.

Proceedings of the Courthouse Building Committee, December, 1864–October, 1875, 1 v.

Supervisors' Proceedings (files), 1857–1897, in basement; 1898–date, in vault.

Register of County Orders, 1871–date, 9 v. (A–I)

Volumes A and B are in basement.

Register of Claims (filed for payment), 1895–date, 1 v.

Cancelled County Orders, 1837–date, in vault.

Jury List, 1872–date, 1 v. (1)

COUNTY COURT RECORDS

County Court Records (criminal and common law), 1872–date.

These are kept in the same volumes with probate records.

Index to Court Records, 2 v. (A–B) each for plaintiff and defendant.

[1]Examined January, 1912.

Naturalization Record, 1876–1906, 6 v.
Naturalization Papers, 1876–1906, 11 f.b.
Judges' Docket, 1872–1903, 2 v.
Judgment Docket, 1873–1909, 1 v.
Execution Docket, 1873–1901, 1 v.
Insanity Docket, 1893–date, 2 v. (A–B)

The docket gives names, date of hearing, verdict of jury, names of jury, etc.

Index to Bonds, 1872–date, 5 v. (1–5)

This is a docket and record of examination of official bonds. Headings give name and title of principal, names of sureties, date, order of court, etc. Volume 1 is in basement.

County Court Fee Book, 1872–date, 3 v. (A–C)

TAXATION RECORDS

Abstract of Assessment, 1866–date, 2 v. (A–B)
Abstract of Taxes (of assessment [?]), 1858–date, filed in vault.
Assessment and Statement of Taxes, 1867–date, filed in vault.
Assessment and Statement of Taxes, 1888–date, 1 v.
Docket of Rates and Amounts Wanted, 1872–date, 2 v. (A–B)
Auditor's List of Taxable Lands, 1846–1856, 1 f.b.
Auditors' List, Taxable Illinois Central Railroad Lands, 1872, 1 f.b.
District School Plats, 1860–date, 1 v.
School Plats, 1848–date, filed in vault.
Road Plats, 1887–date, 1 v.
District Road Tax Lists, 1855–1889, in basement.
Certificates of Tax Levies: School, 1845–date; Road, Bridge, and County, c. 1855–date, in vault.
Railroad Schedules of Value, 1855–date.

Those prior to 1895 are in basement.

Telegraph Schedules of Value, 1886–date, on file in vault.
Assessors' Books, 1858–date.

Both assessors' and collectors' books are in basement, except for current years.

Collectors' Books, 1839–1850, 1 v., consisting of folios of different sizes bound together.
Collectors' Books, 1855–date.
Delinquent Tax Lists (advertised), 1850–date, in vault.

These are copies of newspapers in which the lists were published.

Tax Judgment, Sale, Redemption, and Forfeiture Record, 1850–date, 11 v.
Tax Sale and Redemption Record, 1874–1878, 1 v., in basement.
Forfeited Land Record, 1872–1879, 1 v. (A), in basement.
Treasurers' Accounts, County Funds, 1872–1910, 1 v.
Collectors' Accounts, County Funds, 1872–1910, 1 v.

RECORDS OF VITAL STATISTICS

Register of Marriages, July, 1837–date, 9 v.

Volumes A and B (6 x 8 inches, about 100 p. each) and volume C, carry the records down to 1874. For years 1874–1877 there are two volumes in which names are entered alphabetically; in one volume the man's name appears in first column, in the other the woman's. From 1877 to date, the board of health form is used.

Record of Applications for Marriage License, 1900–date, 5 v. (1–5)
Marriage Licenses, 1838–date, in vault.
Register of Births, January, 1878–date, 7 v.
Register of Deaths, January, 1878–date, 5 v. (A–E)
Birth Reports, 1878–date, in vault.
Death Reports, 1878–date, in vault.
Register of Physicians and Accoucheurs, 1877–date, 1 v. (1)
Record of Physicians' Certificates, 1878–date, 2 v.
Record of Veterinary Surgeons' Licenses, 1899–date, 1 v. (1)
Record of Certificates of Registered Nurses, October, 1909–date, 1 v.
Architects' License Record, 1897–date, 1 v. (A)
Register of Architects, 1 v.
Census of County by Townships, 1845, tied up in one roll, in basement; 1855, bound with stiff yellow paper, in basement.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Abstract of Votes, 1838–date, filed in vault in various boxes.
Election Returns, 1837–date, filed in vault.
Freeport Incorporation Election Returns, 1856, in vault.
Assessors' Bond Record, 1899–date, 1 v.
Register of Officers, 1862–date, 1 v. (A)

Names of officers elected in county and date and expiration of commission are registered.

Estray Record, 1839–1901, 3 v.

Estray record, 1839–1852, is a little paper-back volume about 8 x 9 inches, marked on side "Record of Estrays." Estray record, 1852–1859, no label, is in basement, in county clerk's storeroom near door.

Estray Papers, 1838–c. 1875, 10 f.b.

[Record of] Marks and Brands, 1837–1857, 1 v.

The volume is in basement near door in county clerk's vault; 6 x 8 inches, not labeled.

Fines and Forfeitures Report Record, 1890–1910, 1 v. (A)

Names of persons fined, amount and date, and by whom collected are recorded.

Militia Roll Record, 1861–1863, 1 v. (A), in basement.

Militia Rolls, 1861–1863, 2 f.b.

Volunteers' Bounty Fund Papers, 1861–1865.

These papers include reports and bills, vouchers for bounty orders, etc.

County Clerks' Register of Receipts and Expenditures, 1874–1895, 2 v. (A–B)

Record of Pensions to Blind, 1904–date, 1 v.

The name and address of pensioner and amount of pension are recorded.

County Clerk—Probate

PROBATE COURT RECORDS

"Record of Letters Testamentary, of administration and of guardianship," 1839–1849, 1 v., in basement.

"Journal A," 1849–1853, 1 v.

The journal contains administrators', executors', and guardians' oaths, bonds, and letters; reports, accounts; inventories; sale bills; wills, etc.

"Journal B & C," 1853–1863, 2 v.

The contents are the same as those of journal A.

"Probate Records," 1839–1849, 2 v., in basement.

Accounts and reports filed are recorded.

"Ledger 2," December, 1849–April, 1851, 1 v.

The contents are the same as those of journal A.

"Probate Record Book," 1842–1849, 1 v.

The volume contains wills, letters, inventories, sale bills, etc.

Probate Court Record, January, 1847–date, 45 v.

The early volumes contain not only records of the proceedings of the court, but letters, oaths, bonds, etc. of administrators, executors, and guardians; inventories, appraisements, sale bills; reports and accounts, wills, etc. Gradually these have been segregated in series to themselves

(q. v.) until the above record contains only proceedings of the court showing its action. Probate and county court records are kept in the same volumes.

County Court Record (claims, adjustment day), October, 1887–date, 5 v.

The volumes record judgment on claims against estates.

DOCKETS AND FEE BOOKS

Judges' Docket, 1874–date, 1 v. (1)

Probate Judgment Docket, 1859–date, 8 v. (A–H)

Volumes A–C are in basement.

Probate Judgment Docket Index, 2 v.

Probate Estate Docket, October, 1855–date, 4 v.

The volumes give: name of deceased and administrator; date of letters, bonds, etc., and where recorded; names of widow and heirs; when inventory, sale bills, etc. were filed, amount and where recorded; remarks.

Guardians' Docket, April, 1858–date, 2 v. (A–B)

The contents are similar to estate docket.

Probate Fee Book, 1853–date, 15 v. (A–O)

Volumes A–G, 1853–1878, are in basement.

Guardians' Fee Book, 1901–date, 1 v. (A)

Guardians' and Conservators' Fee Book, 1912, 1 v.

RECORDS OF WILLS, BONDS, AND LETTERS

Will Record, 1849–date, 16 v.

Administrators' Record, March, 1858–date, 5 v. (A–E)

Executors' Record, March, 1858–date, 5 v. (A–E)

Guardians' Record, 1858–date, 4 v. (A–D)

Additional Bond Record, 1874–date, 1 v.

INVENTORIES, APPRAISEMENTS, SALE BILLS, ETC.

Inventory Record, 1859–date, 11 v. (A–K)

Guardians' Inventory Record, 1871–date, 1 v. (A)

Appraisement Record, 1858–date, 9 v. (A–I)

Volumes A–D are in basement.

Personal Property Sale Record, 1859–date, 6 v. (A–F)

Volumes A–C are in basement.

Administrators' and Executors' Report Record, 1882–date, 12 v.

Itemized accounts of receipts and expenditures of administrators and executors are recorded. Volumes A–B are in basement.

Guardians' Report Record, 1882–date, 5 v. (A–E)

Itemized reports of receipts and expenditures are recorded. Volume A, 1882–1890, is in basement.

Record of Accounts Current, 1875–date, 10 v.

Widows' Relinquishment and Selection Record, 1891–date, 2 v.

This was formerly a part of the appraisement record.

Record of Proceedings on Petition to Sell Real Estate, June, 1867–date, 5 v. (A–E)

Petition, decree, report, etc. are recorded. Volume B, 1879–1883, is in basement.

Guardians' Record, Sale of Real Estate, 1888–date, 1 v. (C)

The record includes petition to sell, bond, decree of court, and report of sale.

Clerk of the Circuit Court

CIRCUIT COURT RECORDS

Circuit Court Record, August, 1839–date, 42 v.; Criminal Record, 1877–date, 3 v.; index in each volume.

Until 1866, v. L, common law and criminal records were kept in the same volume. In 1877 criminal records were put in separate series, "Criminal Record," 3 v. (A–C)

Index to Court Records, 1858–date, 2 v. each for plaintiff and defendant.

Circuit Court Files (common law, chancery, and criminal), 1839–1857, in basement; 1856–date, 259 f.b., in vault.

Naturalization Record, April, 1849–May, 1874, 1 v.; Declaration of Intention, 1855–1901, 2 v. (A–B); Soldiers, 1866–1873, Minors, 1866–1900, 1 v.

DOCKETS, FEE BOOKS, ETC.

Court Dockets, 1841–1894, in basement.

Loose-Leaf Transfer Docket, c. March, 1909–date, 1 v.

The headings are parties, attorneys, general number of case, date of indictment, reference to records (book and page), term orders of court, etc.

Judgment and Execution Docket, 1839–date, 19 v.

Lien Docket [Docket of Mechanics' Liens], 1887–date, 1 v. (1)

Fee Book, 1841–date, 21 v. (B–V)

Volumes B–P, 1841–1873, are in basement.

Justice of the Peace Transcript Record, October, 1846–date, 5 v. (A–E)
Volume B, 1856–1872, is in basement.

States Attorneys' Report Record, 1876–date, 1 v. (A)
Reports of fees, fines, and forfeitures collected are recorded.

Register of Fees (Received by Circuit Clerk), 1876–date, 7 v. (A–G)

Circuit Clerk—Recorder

DEED AND MORTGAGE RECORDS

Entry Book, 1845–date, 36 v. (A–Z, 27–36)
Volumes prior to volume 30 are in basement.

Deed Record, June, 1837–date, 122 v.
Mortgage Record, 1846–date, 99 v.
Release Record, November, 1868–date, 5 v.
Plat Book, 1869–date, 4 v. (A–D)
General Index, January, 1837–date, 17 v. each for grantor and grantee.
Index to Marginal Releases, 1907–date, 1 v. (A) each for grantor and grantee.
Chattel Mortgage Record, 1885–date, 9 v. (64 and 69 of mortgage record and A–G of chattel mortgage record)
Chattel mortgage records 1857–1884 (v. O, R, U, X, 41, 49, 54, 63, 74, of mortgage record) are in basement.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Sheriffs' Certificate of Levy Record, 1846–1851, 1 v. (A), in basement; October, 1851–June, 1859, 1 v.
Sheriffs' and Masters' Certificates of Sale Record, 1891–date, 1 v. (E)
A Copy of Field Notes of Public Surveys in Stephenson County, Illinois, being in townships 26, 27, 28, 29, north of the base line and ranges 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 east of the fourth principal meridian, certified by the Surveyor General, M. Lewis Clark, 10th Nov., 1849, copied by Gabriel Hooffstetter, St. Louis, Mo., 1849, 1 v.
The volume contains 599 p., is about 8 x 8 inches, and is labeled "Surveys Stephenson Co."

Illinois Central Railroad Lands, "Map and profile lands obtained for the use of the I. C. R. R. in Stephenson County," 1 v.

Surveyors' Record, June, 1840–November, 1865, 3 v. (1–3); 1866–date, 2 v.

The records contain notes and plats. On page opposite p. 1 (v. 1) are the entries in pencil "No records known to be preserved previous to 1840," "No records to be found Oct. 20, 1849 to Mch., 1859."

Entries of Conveyances, January, 1872–August, 1873, 1 v.

Soldiers' Discharge Record, 1864–1877, 1 v. (A)

Stallion Register, March, 1910–date, 1 v.; Renewals, March, 1911–date, 1 v.

Miscellaneous Record, 1879–date, 5 v. (A–E)

Certificates of elections of trustees and officers of lodges, charters and licenses, transcripts from records of other courts, etc. are recorded.

TAZEWELL COUNTY[1]

Tazewell county was set off from Fayette and Peoria in 1827; the county seat is Pekin. The offices of record in Tazewell county are in a separate fireproof building which has iron doors and shutters, and is fitted with steam heat and electric light.

County Clerk

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' AND SUPERVISORS' RECORDS

County Commissioners' Court Record, April, 1827–December, 1848, 2 v.

The record contains: tax rates and levies; road business, appointment of supervisors, viewers, etc.; licenses and rates of ferries, etc.; jury lists; specifications for courthouse and jail; appointment of judges of election; record of county orders, etc.

Supervisors' Record, December, 1849–date, 14 v. (A–N)

Road Record, December, 1837–September, 1839, 1 v.

The volume records surveys, copies of petitions for and against roads, and supervisors' and road viewers' reports.

License Record, March, 1838–June, 1841, 1 v.

Licenses issued by county commissioners for taverns, groceries, ferries, etc. are recorded. Besides the above, there is one page headed "Entry of Persons of Color (Free) Sept. 1846," which contains certificates of freedom of one Nancy Shipman, a mulatto, and of her four mulatto children, all of a "light mulatto complexion." The record shows that Nancy "had paid for herself."

Supervisors' Proceedings and Papers, 1850–1899, in basement of courthouse; 1899–date, 74 f.b., in office.

COUNTY COURT RECORDS

County Court Record, 1872–date: Common Law, 3 v.; Criminal, 3 v.; Files kept with probate files, q.v.

Index to County Court Record (plaintiff and defendant)

Record and Fee Book, Judgment by Confession, 1897–date, 1 v. (1)

[1] Examined February, 1912.

Insanity Record, 1870–date, 4 v. (A–D)
Naturalization Record, 1856–1906, 7 v.
Judgment and Execution Docket, 1872–date, 4 v.
County Court Fee Book, 1872–date, 3 v. (A–C)

TAXATION RECORDS

Abstract of Assessment and Taxes, 1881–date, 3 v. (B–D)
The volumes contain tabular statements of the footings of assessors' books, grand totals, etc.

Docket of Rates and Amounts Wanted, 1885–date, 2 v.
Assessors' Books, 1844–1888, in basement; 1889–date, in office.
Collectors' Books, 1844–date, in office.
Railroad Tax Books, 1871–date, in office.
Telephone and Telegraph Tax Books, 1885–date, in office.
Delinquent Tax Lists, 1858–date, c. 50 v.
Tax Judgment, Sale, Redemption, and Forfeiture Record, 1840–date, 45 v.
Record of Affidavits for Tax Deeds, 1866–date, 4 v. (A–D)

RECORDS OF VITAL STATISTICS

Marriage Record, 1827–1877, 4 v. (A–D)
The record contains names of parties, date of license, when and by whom married, and when recorded.

Marriage Register, 1877–date, 4 v. (1–4)
Index to Marriage Records, 1827–date, 3 v., by male only.
Marriage Licenses, 1827–1908, stored in bundles in basement of old courthouse.
Record of Applications for Marriage License, 1902–date, 7 v. (1–7)
Affidavits as to names, ages, etc. are recorded.

Register of Births, 1877–date, 8 v. (1–8); Index, 1 v.
Register of Still Births, 1878–date, 2 v.
Register of Deaths, 1877–date, 6 v. (1–6); Index, 1 v.
Birth Reports, 1878–1899, stored in bundles under old courthouse.
Death Reports, 1878–1899.
These are stored in bundles in basement of old courthouse. Recent reports are filed in office.

Record of Veterinary Surgeons' Licenses, 1908–date, 1 v. (1)
Record of Physicians' Certificates, 1877–date, 2 v.

Register of Physicians and Accoucheurs, 1877–date, 1 v.
Register of Dentists, 1879–date, 1 v.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Register of Town and County Officers, 1827–date, 3 v. (A–C)
Record of Ear and Other Marks, 1827–1900, paper folio, c. 50 p.
Estray Record, 1847–1898, 3 v.
Militia Roll Record, 1861–1862, 1 v.
Record of Soldiers' Relief Committee, September, 1862–September, 1864, 1 v.

This is a record of proceedings of committee appointed by supervisors to aid soldiers' families; shows list of those aided and to what extent.

List of Soldiers from Tazewell County serving in the Civil War, 1 v.

This list was compiled by order of supervisors, 1864, giving names, company, and regiment.

Record of Swamp and Overflowed Lands, 1852, 1 v.

Lists of lands, giving location, amount and kind of land are recorded.

School Land Record, 1832–1839, 1 v.

Lands sold, and school money loaned at interest are recorded.

Property Atlas, 1903, 1 v.

The atlas contains maps of various townships, showing location of each man's lands.

County Clerk—Probate

PROBATE COURT RECORDS

Probate Record, 1827–date, 46 v.
Claim Record, 1873–1901, 1 v. (1)

Proceedings of court on claims filed are recorded.

Claim Judgment Record, 1851–1860, 1 v.

The record contains a list of claims allowed against estates, giving creditors' names and amount of claim.

Probate Files, 1827–date; County Court Files (common law and criminal), 1872–date, 348 f.b.

The early probate papers are not filed chronologically. At present probate and county court papers are filed together in the order in which the cases are disposed of.

Index to Estates, 1827–date, 1 v.
Index to Guardianships, 1827–date, 1 v.

DOCKETS AND FEE BOOKS

Probate Court Docket, 1845–date, 30 v.

Estate Docket, 1859–1871, 1 v. (A)

Probate Estate Docket and Ledger, 1871–date, 8 v. (D–K)

The contents of the last two items above are the same, except that the latter contains list of claims allowed and totals of receipts and expenditures.

Guardians' Docket, 1884–date, 2 v.

This is similar to the estate docket.

Probate Judgment Docket, 1859–date, 10 v. (A–J); Index, 2 v.

Probate Fee Book, 1850–date, 10 v. (A–J)

RECORDS OF WILLS, BONDS, AND LETTERS

Record of Wills, 1830–date, 12 v.

Administrators' Record, 1846–1865, 2 v.

The volumes contain letters of administration.

Record of Administrators' Bonds, 1854–1865, 1 v.

Administrators' Record, 1865–date, 5 v.

Bonds, oaths, and letters are included.

Executors' Record, 1847–date, 9 v. (1–3, A–F)

Guardians' and Conservators' Record, 1892–date, 3 v. (E–G)

Guardians' Record, 1847–date, 7 v. (1, A–F)

Miscellaneous Bond Record, 1876–1908, 1 v. (A)

The contents are bonds of administrators de bonis non, etc.

Miscellaneous Record, 1891–date, 6 v. (1–6)

Miscellaneous records, letters de bonis non, sales, etc. are recorded.

INVENTORIES, APPRAISEMENTS, SALE BILLS, ETC.

Inventory Record, 1859–date, 10 v. (A–J)

Appraisement Record, 1859–date, 9 v. (A–I)

Partnership Inventory and Appraisement Record, 1876–date, 2 v. (A–B)

Sale Record, Personal Property, 1859–date, 6 v.

Report Record, 1871–date, 13 v. (A–M)

These are reports of administrators, executors, and guardians, showing receipts and expenditures.

Guardians' Report Record, 1884–date, 9 v. (1–9)

Reports of guardians and conservators are recorded.

Record of Insolvent Estates, 1904–date, 1 v. (1)

Widows' Relinquishment and Selection Record, 1900–date, 1 v. (1)

Proceedings on Petitions to Sell Real Estate, 1867–1889, 1 v. (A)

Clerk of the Circuit Court

CIRCUIT COURT RECORDS

Circuit Court Record: Common Law, Chancery, and Criminal, 1827–1835, 1 v. (A); Chancery, 1836–date, 34 v.; Common Law and Criminal, 1836–1869, 13 v.; Criminal, 1869–date, 6 v.; Common Law, 1869–date, 12 v.

Index to Court Record, 1858–date, 5 v. each for plaintiff and defendant.

Circuit Court Files, 1827–date, 495 f.b.

Index to Files, 1828–date: Common Law and Chancery, 5 v.; Criminal, 1 v.

Naturalization Record: Declaration of Intention, 1839–1892, 2 v.; Final Certificate, 1855–1886, 1 v.; Soldiers and Minors (petitions and final papers), (a) Soldiers, 1870–1872 and (b) Minors, 1867–1886, 1 v.

DOCKETS, FEE BOOKS, ETC.

Judges' Docket, 1856–date, 32 v.

Judgment Docket, 1828–1835, 1 v.

The volume is labeled "Records A. 1829–35."

Judgment Docket, 1834–date, 10 v. (A–J)

Execution Docket, 1839–date, 6 v. (B–G)

Lien Docket (docket of mechanics' liens), 1890–date, 2 v. (1–2)

Fee Book, 1896–date, 6 v. (22–27)

Old fee books, c. 1858–1896, are in basement of courthouse.

Justice of the Peace Transcript Record, 1870–date, 3 v. (B–D)

Foreign Transcript Record, 1893–date, 1 v.

These are records transcribed from other counties.

Docket of Coroners' Inquests, 1892–date, 1 v. (1)

The docket contains name of deceased, date of inquest, names of jurors, cause of death, date of death, by whom inquest was held, and date of report.

States Attorneys' Report Record, 1873–date, 1 v.

Circuit Clerk—Recorder

DEED AND MORTGAGE RECORDS

Entry Book, 1829–date, 34 v.

Deed Record, 1827–date, 183 v.

In this series are kept warranty deeds, quit claim deeds, master in chancery deeds, releases of mortgages, and a miscellaneous record, which contains leases and agreements, foreign wills, and other instruments, certificates of election of trustees of lodges, societies, etc.

Trust Deed Record, 1847–date, 30 v. (1–30)

Mortgage Record, 1835–date, 51 v.

Plat Book, 1834–date, 7 v. (A–G); Index, 1 v.

General Index, 1827–1879, 7 v. each for grantor and grantee.

General Index, Mortgages, 1827–1879, 3 v. each for mortgagor and mortgagee.

Sectional Index, 1827–date, 16 v., each for a different township.

Index to Town Lots.

The index gives number of lot and block and reference to all records affecting title.

Chattel Mortgage Record, 1844–date, 37 v.; Index, 1857–date, 2 v.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Incorporation Record, 1872–date, 3 v. (A–C)

Incorporations of societies, lodges, business firms, etc. are recorded.

Surveyors' Record, 1835–date, 4 v.

United States Survey Field Notes, 1860, 1 v.

The notes contain the location of sectional corners, etc.

Land Entry Book, 1829–c. 1855, 1 v.

Contents: name of original patentee, date and amount of entry.

Land Book, 1828–1841, 1 v.

This is a tract book arranged by township, range, etc., showing patentees of each section, etc.

Plat Book, Tazewell County, 1891, 1 v.

Sheriffs' and Masters' Certificate of Sale Record, 1850–date, 3 v. (A–C)

Soldiers' Discharge Record, 1861–1891, 1 v. (1)

Soldiers' Discharge Record, 1865–date, 1 v. (A)

Record of Powers of Attorney, 1847–date, 3 v. (A–C)

Stallion Register, 1910–date, 1 v.

UNION COUNTY[1]

Union county was set off from Johnson in 1818; the county seat is Jonesboro. The courthouse is not fireproof, but is not located near other buildings. The vaults are large but the ceilings have been cracked by settling walls. In the county clerk's office are four hundred steel filingboxes and ninety-eight roller shelves. Otherwise in both this and the circuit clerk's office record books stand on end on wooden shelves and papers are filed in cardboard boxes.

County Clerk

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' AND SUPERVISORS' RECORDS

County Commissioners' Record, 1818–1852, 4 v.

The record contains: a list of orders allowed; record of appointment of road supervisors and road viewers and of their reports; ferry licenses and rates established; list of jurors, record of appointment of justices and constables and of school trustees; tax rates levied by board, etc.

County Court Record, 1852–1874, 3 v. (1–3)

County Commissioners' Record, 1875–date, 4 v. (4–7)

Jury List, 1872–date, 2 v. (1–2)

COUNTY COURT RECORD

County Court Record (common law and criminal), 1872–date, 4 v. (1–4)

Index to Court Record, 1872–date, 2 v. each for plaintiff and defendant.

County Court Files, 1872–date, 107 f.b.

Common law and criminal files are in same boxes.

Clear Creek Drainage District Record, 1907–date, 3 v.

Adoption Record, 1900–date, 1 v.

Insanity Record, 1885–date, 3 v.

Insanity Files, 1885–date, 18 f.b.

Naturalization Record, 1887–1903, 1 v. (A)

The record contains declarations of intention and final certificates of naturalization.

[1] Examined May, 1912.

Judges' Docket, 1872–date, 6 v.
Judgment Docket, 1872–1909, 1 v. (1)
Execution Docket, 1872–1909, 1 v. (1)
Judgment and Execution Docket, 1909–date, 1 v. (2)
Insanity Docket, 1894–date, 2 v. (A–B)
County Court Fee Book (common law and criminal), 1872–date, 8 v. (1–8)

TAXATION RECORDS

County Clerks' Statement to Auditor, 1887–date, 1 v. (A)
Statement of assessment and taxes.

Docket of Rates and Amounts Wanted, 1883–date, 3 v.
Township School Plat Record, 1908–date, 1 v. (1)
Land Entry Book, c. 1817–1895, 1 v.
Railroad Schedules of Values, 1875–date, 3 f.b.
Assessors' Books, 1857–date.
Collectors' Books, 1862–date.
Railroad Tax Book, 1875–date, 2 v.
Board of Review Record, 1899–date, 1 v. (1)
Board of Review Complaint Docket, 1899–date, 1 v. (1)
Board of Review Files, 1899–date, 1 f.b.
Tax Judgment Record, 1850–1879, 5 v.
Tax Sale and Redemption Record, 1859–1879, 3 v.
Record of Forfeited Lands, 1871–1879, 2 v.
Tax Judgment, Sale, Redemption, and Forfeiture Record, 1880–date, 6 v.
Record of Affidavits for Tax Deeds, 1882–date, 3 v. (1–3)
The affidavits, 1872–1882, are in "Tax Sale Record 1872–79."

RECORDS OF VITAL STATISTICS

Record of Marriages, February, 1818–December, 1828, 1 paper-back folio, not indexed.
Certificates of marriage and date are recorded.

Marriage Record, January, 1829–July, 1865, 2 v. (A–B)
Contents: same as above.

Marriage Record, July, 1865–July, 1874, 1 v. (3)
The volume records number and date of license, name of man and woman, date of marriage and by whom performed.

Marriage Record, August, 1874–date, 9 v. (4–12)

Copy of license, and certificate of marriage giving names, ages, and residence of parties, date of license and of marriage, and by whom solemnized are recorded.

Register of Marriages, 1877–date, 4 v. (1–4)

Board of health form is used.

Records of Applications for Marriage License, 1883–date.

Marriage Licenses, 1818–date, 23 f.b.

Register of Births, 1877–date, 5 v. (1–5)

Register of Still Births, 1877–date, 1 v. (1)

Register of Deaths, 1877–date, 5 v. (1–5)

Birth and Death Reports, 1877–date, 8 f.b.

Both reports are filed together.

Record of Physicians' Certificates, 1877–date, 2 v. (1–2)

Register of Physicians and Accoucheurs, 1877–date, 1 v.

Register of Dentists, 1877–date, 1 v.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Election Returns: Poll Books and Tally Sheets for years 1827, 1828, 1829, 1835, 1837, 1838, and 1843, 1 f.b., labeled "Election Returns"; "Abstract of Votes," 1870, 1874, 1888, 1890, 1892, 1896, 1 f.b.; "Abstract and Canvass of Election, 1908," 1 f.b.

Road Supervisors' Bond Record, 1911–date, 1 v. (1)

Register of County Officers, 1873–date, 2 v. (1–2)

Justices' and Constables' Bond Record, 1889–date, 4 v.

Estray Record, 1831–1884, 2 v.

Road District Record, 1889–date, 2 v.

The volumes record proceedings of board of highway commissioners, and reports of work done and money spent on roads.

District School Record, 1861, *et seq.*, 1 v.

The record contains: expenditures for fuel, repairs, etc.; rules and regulations, list of books authorized; names of teachers, when and for what time employed, amount of salary, remarks; report on attendance and condition of school for year 1867; record of proceedings of board of directors. District no. 3, 1862–1893.

School Superintendents' Report Record, 1889–date, 1 v.

From 1889 to 1910 the reports are of financial nature; the one for 1911 is a diary showing how each day was spent.

Swamp Land Record, c. 1857, 1 v., 10 x 15 inches, leather bound.

The record contains a list of swamp lands, giving location and description, to whom sold, when and for what price.

County Clerk—Probate

PROBATE COURT RECORDS

Probate Record, 1821–1863, 7 v. (1–7)

The volumes contain wills, appointment of administrators and guardians, letters and bonds, claims allowed, reports and settlements. Volumes 2–7 (1840–1863) contain inventories and sale bills also.

Probate Journal, 1863–date, 15 v. (A–O)

The journal contains orders and decrees, and record of court proceedings.

Probate Files: Estates, 1822–date, 300 f.b.; Guardians and Conservators, 1861–date, 84 f.b.

These are filed flat in cardboard boxes, 4½ x 4½ x 9 inches. Papers are filed alphabetically, the inclusive years and letter being shown on the box.

DOCKETS AND FEE BOOKS

Probate Judges' Docket, 1871–1873, 1 v.; 1888–date, 7 v.

Estate Docket, 1852–1906, 1 v.

The docket contains name of estate, of administrator, date of letters, amount of bond, names of sureties, names of widow and heirs, date and amount of inventory and sale bill, remarks, etc. The volume is labeled "Index to Estates."

Probate Judgment Docket, 1859–date, 5 v. (A–E)

Land Docket, 1900–date, 2 v. (2–3)

This is a docket of petitions to sell lands to pay debts, giving names of parties, date, and order of court.

Probate Fee Book, 1865–date, 12 v. (A–L)

RECORDS OF WILLS, BONDS, AND LETTERS

Will Record, 1856–date, 3 v. (1–3)

Volumes 1 and 2 are longhand records. Volume 3 is a printed form.

Administrators' Record, 1859–date, 4 v. (A–D)

Executors' Record, 1859–date, 2 v. (A–B)

Conservators' Record, 1907–date, 1 v. (B)

Guardians' Record, 1859–date, 4 v. (A–D)

INVENTORIES, APPRAISEMENTS, SALE BILLS, ETC.

Inventory Record, 1861–date, 3 v. (A–C)

Appraisement Record, 1859–date, 4 v. (A–D)

Sale Record, 1859–date, 2 v. (1–2)

Administrators' and Executors' Report Record, 1895–date, 2 v. (1–2)

Guardians' Report Record, 1893–date, 2 v. (1–2)
Administrators', Executors', and Guardians' Final Report Record, 1893–date, 3 v. (1–3)

Clerk of the Circuit Court

CIRCUIT COURT RECORDS

Circuit Court Record: Common Law, Chancery, and Criminal, 1818–1874, 11 v. (A–K); Chancery, 1874–date, 8 v. (1–8); Common Law, 1874–date, 4 v. (1–4); Criminal, 1874–date, 3 v. (1–3)

Complete Record, Chancery, 1842–1850, 1 v., labeled "Chancery Docket."

This is a complete record of all chancery files in cases affecting title to lands.

Index to Court Records, 1858–date, 3 v. each for plaintiff and defendant.

Circuit Court Files, 1818–date, 550 f.b.

Common law, chancery, and criminal files are kept in same boxes and arranged chronologically.

"Negro Book A," 1835–1844, 1 folio, 8 x 13 inches, labeled.

This is a record of Negro manumissions and freedom papers.

Naturalization Record, 1860–1888, 1 v. (A)

Declaration of intention and final certificate of naturalization are recorded.

DOCKETS AND FEE BOOKS

Judges' Docket, 1818–date, 20 v.
Judgment Docket, 1827–1879, 3 v. (2–4)
Execution Docket, 1819–1879, 4 v. (1–4)
Judgment and Execution Docket, 1879–date, 2 v. (5–6)
Mechanics' Lien Record (docket), 1890–date, 1 v. (1)
Fee Book, 1818–date, 23 v. (A–D, 1–19)
Justice of the Peace Transcript Record, 1873–date, 2 v. (B–C)
States Attorneys' Report Record, 1876–date, 1 v. (1)
Indictment Record, 1872–date, 1 v. (1)
Coroners' Record, 1878–1895, 1 v. (A)

The record gives date of inquest, name of deceased, names of witnesses and jury, and verdict.

Coroners' General Index, 1874–date, 1 v.

The index lists number of inquest, date of filing report, and name of party.

Circuit Clerk—Recorder

DEED AND MORTGAGE RECORDS

Entry Book, 1820–date, 6 v. (1–6)
Deed Record, 1818–date, 57 v. (1–57)
Mortgage Record, 1860–date, 23 v. (1–23)
Plat Record, 1839–date, 2 v.
General Index, 1818–date, 8 v. each for grantor and grantee.
Index to Marginal Releases, 1905–date, 1 v.
Chattel Mortgage Record, 1873–date, 17 v. (1–17)
Miscellaneous Record, 1873–date, 2 v.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Record of Sheriffs' Certificates of Levy, Sale, and Redemption, 1846–date, 3 v. (1–3)
Surveyors' Record, 1885–date, 2 v. (1–2)
Field Notes (record of United States surveys), 1875–date, 1 v.

The notes contain descriptions of exterior section and quarter-section corners, and interior section and quarter-section corners, and plats of same.

Corporation Certificates Record, 1876–date, 2 v. (1–2)

Certificates of election of trustees of corporations, lodges, etc. are recorded.

Soldiers' Discharge Record, 1865–1909, 1 v.
Stallion Register, 1910–date, 1 v. (1)

VERMILION COUNTY[1]

Vermilion County was set off from Edgar in 1826; the county seat is Danville. The courthouse faces a juncture of two streets which form a small square; on two sides, however, it is close to other buildings. It has just been rebuilt with large vault rooms, which are equipped with filing material of the latest pattern. The county has all four offices.

County Clerk

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' AND SUPERVISORS' RECORDS

County Commissioners' and Supervisors' Court Record, 1826–date, 17 v. (A–Q)

County Board Papers, 1906–date, 39 f.b.

Road Record, 1826–1869, 1 v.

This is a transcript of entries in county commissioners' record relating to roads.

Register of County Orders, 1882–date, 4 v.

Jury List, 1872–date, 4 v.

COUNTY COURT RECORDS

County Court Record: Common Law, 1859–1872, 1 v.; Common Law and Criminal, 1873–1898, 10 v. (1–10), and 8 v. (12, 13, 15, 17, 19, 21, 24, and 20); Confession in Vacation, 1878–date, 2 v.; Recognizance Record, 1872–1891, 1 v.; 1910–date, 1 v.

Index to Court Record, 1872–date, 3 v. each for plaintiff and defendant.

County Court Special Assessment Record, 1892–date, 8 v. (8, 9, 11, 14, 16, 18, 22, 23)

Petitions for special assessments and condemnations are recorded.

Drainage Record, 1904–date, 1 v.

County Court Files: Common Law, 117 f.b.; Criminal, 24 f.b., cases numbers 1–71 missing.

Insane Court Record, 1884–1893, 1 v. (1—formerly Probate jour-

[1] Examined February, 1914.

nal, "2"); 1893–date, 4 v. (first three formerly Probate journal "10," "16," "21")

Naturalization Record: Declaration of Intention, 1868–1906, 1 v.; Final Certificate, 1868, 1 v.; 1876–1900, 1 v.; 1900–1903, 1 v.; 1903–1906, 1 v.; Soldiers, 1868, 1 v.; 1876–1900, 1 v.; Minors, 1879–1906, 3 v.; Papers, 1876–1900, 1 f.b.

Index to Juvenile Court Record, 1907–date, 1 v.

Judges' Docket: Common Law, 1889–1893, 1 v.; 1905–1909, 1 v.; 1910–date, 1 v.; Criminal, 1883–1901, 3 v.; 1909–date, 3 v.

Loose-Leaf Criminal and Common Law Docket, 1 v. each, current.

Clerks' Docket (common law), 1908–date, 2 v.

Judgment Docket, 1859–1902, 5 v. (A–E)

Execution Docket, 1859–1900, 3 v.

Judgment and Execution Docket, 1900–date, 4 v.

Praecipe for Executions, 1908–date, 1 v.

Judges' Docket, Special Assessment Cases, 1906–1912, 2 v.; 1913–date, 1 v., loose leaf.

Juvenile Docket, current, 1 v.

The entries are number of case, name, petition, date of filing, and order of court.

Judges' Insane Docket, 1893–date, 3 v.

County Court Fee Book: Common Law, 1859–1873, 1 v.; 1871–1874, 1 v. (B); 1885–date, 6 v.; Criminal, 1874–1880, 1 v.; 1913–date, 1 v.; Common Law and Criminal, 1880–1891, 2 v.; 1911–date, 1 v.; Insane, Juvenile, Adoption, and Miscellaneous, 1911–date, 1 v.

TAXATION RECORDS

Tax Papers, 1847–date, 38 f.b.

The papers contain: certificates of amount of tax wanted for schools, roads and towns; statements of footings of assessors' books, as receipted for by town collectors; clerks' statements to town officers of amounts due and credits; objections to applications for judgment; and railroad schedules. For the period before 1861 they contain only certificates of levy and collectors' receipts for books.

Clerks' Subdivisions, 1896–date, 1 f.b.

Surveys made by order of the county clerk of property so subdivided that it can be described only by metes and bounds.

School Township Maps, 1891–date.

List of Lands subject to Tax, 1829, 1 folio.

"List of Lands in County subject to taxation under the act of 1827," 1833, 1834, 1837, 1 v. each; 1839, 2 v.; three undated v. (districts of Carroll, Union, and Middle Fork)

Two volumes are bound in calico.

"A list of personal property taxed by the Commissioners' Court of Vermilion County," 1834, 1 v.; 1832, 1835, 2 v.

Tax Lists, 1839, for 5 districts, 6 v.; Danville, 1840–1846, 16 v.; Georgetown, 1840–1847, 8 v.; Carroll; 1847, 1 v.; no town given, 1849, 1 v.; 1852, 2 v.

Tax List, Lots in Plat of old Town of Danville and Additions, 1842, 1 v.; 1847, 2 v.; 1849, 1 v.

Township Tax Book, 1851, 18 v.; 1852, 20 v.; 1853, 8 v.; 1854, 6 v.

There are separate books for lands, town lots, and personal property.

Nonresident Lands and Town Lots Listed, 1855, 1 v.

Assessors' Books and Collectors' Books, 1854–date.

Abstract of Railroad Taxes, 1890–1894, 1 v.

Board of Review Record, 1898–date, 1 v.

Board of Review Complaint Docket, 1913, 1 v.

List of Delinquent Lands, 1877, 1 v.

Tax Judgment Record, 1841–1858, 2 v.; 1859–1867, 11 v.; 1868, 1 v.; 1872–1874, 2 v.; 1875, 1 v.; 1876–1878, 2 v.; 1879, 1 v.; 1880, 1 v.; also 1862–1880, 5 v.

Register of Sales for Taxes, 1831, 1 v.; 1844, 1 v.; 1844–1847, 1 v.; 1848–1862, 1 v.; 1849, 1 v.

The last volume contains also forfeitures to the state, 1848–1858.

Sales for Taxes (arranged by survey), 1831–1849, 2 v.

Tax Sale and Redemption Record, 1880, 1 v.

Tax Forfeiture Record, 1839–1841, 1 v.; 1872–1875, 1 v.; 1876–1877, 1 v.

Tax Judgment, Sale, Redemption, and Forfeiture Record, 1881–date, 32 v.

Scrapbook of Certificates of Purchase turned into office on payment of redemption money to holders, 1908–1911, 4 v.

Register of Certificates of Purchase Presented, 1912–date, 1 v.

Stubs of Redemption Certificates, 1911–date.

Record of Affidavits for Tax Deeds, 1872–date, 8 v. (A–H)

Affidavits for Tax Deeds, 1866–1906, *et seq.*

Tax Ledger, 1891–1893, 1 v.

County Collectors' Register of Taxes Collected, 1904–1908, 1 v.

County Clerks' Accounts (for town and village taxes), 1892–1898, 1 v.

County Collectors' Accounts, 1872–date, 1 v.

The accounts give debit by amount of tax collected, credit by jury certificates, county orders, and cash taken in.

Treasurers' Account Book, 1872–date, 1 v.

The book contains accounts, debit by county tax, county orders, etc.; credit by county orders canceled and returned to county clerk, etc.

RECORDS OF VITAL STATISTICS

Record of Marriage Certificates, 1826–1852, 1 v.; copied in v. A, which extends also to 1862; 1863–1887, 2 v. (B, D); 1878–date, 6 v.

Index to Marriage Records, 5 v. each for male and female.

Record of Applications for Marriage License, 1878–date, 65 v. (2–68, v. 5 and 6 missing[?]).

Register of Births, 1877–date, 15 v.; Index, 5 v.

Register of Still Births, 1878–date, 1 v.

Register of Deaths, 1877–date, 10 v.; Index, 2 v.

Record of Physicians' Certificates, 1877–date, 3 v.

Register of Physicians and Accoucheurs, 1878–date, 1 v.

Record of Dental Licenses, 1882–date, 1 v.

Veterinary Certificate Register (graduate), 1 v., current.

Architects' License Record, 1897–date, 1 v.

Record of Nurses' Certificates, 1910–date, 1 v.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Certificates of Village Elections and of Election of Supervisors, 1870–current.

Docket of Application to County Court (in the matter of registration of Danville voters), 1911–date, 1 v.

Danville City Election Commissioners' Reports, 1910–date.

Election Abstracts and Returns, 1869–1907.

Record of Bonds of Town Assessors, 1899–date, 1 v.

Justices' of the Peace and Magistrates' Bonds, 1889–date, 1 f.b.

Constables' Bonds, 1889–date, 1 f.b.

Register of Commissions, 1856–1888, 1 v.; 1857–date, 1 v.
Lists of Township Officers, 1875–1908, 1 f.b.
Record of Ear Marks, 1826–1887, 1 v.
Estray Record, 1853–1911, 1 v.
Estray Notices, 1874–current.
Miscellaneous Record, 1902–date, 1 v.
"Register of Saline Lands sold under Act of Dec. 25, 1830, and Act of Congress, March 31, 1831."

Contents: date of sale, number of receipt, purchaser's name, residence, tracts purchased, quantity, price per acre, amount of purchase money.

County Treasurer's Semiannual Reports, 1894–date, 1 f.b.
Semiannual Financial Reports of County Officers, 1873–1875, 1883–1900, 1 v.
Account Book, Births and Deaths, 1907–date, 1 v.
Register of Fees, 1826–1853, 1 v.; 1890–1910, 4 v.; current, 1 v.
Register of Sheriffs' Fees, 1875, *et seq.*, 5 v.
Stallion Certificates, 1888–date, 1 v.
Petitions for Commitment of Deaf, Dumb, and Blind to Institutions, 1886–1906.
Appointment of Deputy County Clerks, 1874–date, 1 f.b.
Appointment of Deputy Sheriffs, 1877–date, 1 f.b.

County Clerk—Probate

PROBATE COURT RECORDS

Probate Court Record, 1826–1833, 1 v.; 1848, 1 v.

The first volume was used for court proceedings, appearances, proceedings on claims, and short orders.

Probate Journal, 1827–1885, 25 v. (A–Z, no. J); also 34 v. (1–38, no 10, 16, 21, or 28, which were insane records)

The journal contains early reports, sale bills, etc.

Probate Files: Estates, 296 f.b.; Index to Estates, 1 v.; Minor Heirs, 64 f.b.; Index to Minor Heirs, 1 v.

The earliest papers date about 1827.

Index to Probate Journal, 7 v.

The first two volumes give reference to both claimants and estates, later ones only to estates.

Court Record of Claims, 1850–1853, 1 v.

Assignment Record, "1," 1877–1900, 2 v.

This contains assignment of estates to pay debts, and inventories.

Rough Court Minutes, 1853–1859, 2 v.

Judges' Probate Journal, c. 1865–1895, 22 v. (E–Z)

Judges' Minute Book, 1893–date, 18 v. (1–18)

Probate Judgment Record (claims), 1865–date, 18 v. (A–Q, 2 J's)

DOCKETS AND FEE BOOKS

Probate Judgment Docket, 1859–1891, 6 v. (A–F); 1883–date, 13 v. (I–U); Index, 1 v.

Volumes I to N are labeled "Claim Docket."

Probate Docket, 1874–1881, 1 v.

Guardians' Estate Docket, 1882–1891, 1 v.

Probate Estate Docket, 1869–1889, 1 v.

Fee Book, 1855–1863, 1 v.; 1870–1882, 4 v.

Probate Fee Book (claims), 1861–1883, 1 v.; 1869–1877, 1 v.; 1877–1887, 1 v.

Probate Fee Book, 1882–date, 10 v.

RECORDS OF WILLS, BONDS, AND LETTERS

Will Record, 1827–1838, 1 v.

The volume contains wills, bonds, letters, etc.

"Court of Probate Complete Record," 1837–1849, 1 v. (C); 1848–1882, 2 v. (D–E)

Contents: wills, etc.; volume "E" contains bonds and letters to about 1861.

Will Record, 1866–date, 5 v. (F–J)

[Record of] Administrators' Bonds and Letters, 1855–1904, 7 v.

Executors' Record, 1866–date, 4 v.

Conservators' Record, 1886–date, 1 v.

Guardians' Record, 1856–date, 8 v.

Administrators' Record, Bond for Sale of Real Estate, 1898–date, 2 v. (L–M)

Miscellaneous Record, 1902–date, 1 v. (B)

Administrators' Miscellaneous Oath and Bond Record, 1903–date, 1 v.; "To Collect," 1873–1903, 1 v.; 1904–date, 1 v.

INVENTORIES, APPRAISEMENTS, AND SALE BILLS

Inventories, Appraisements and Sales Record, 1857–1859, 1 v.; 1872–date, 12 v. (B–M)

Inventory Record, 1860–1864, 1 v.; 1864–1873, 2 v.; 1869–1877, 1 v.; 1877–date, 14 v. (D–Q)

The first volume contains sale bills also.

Copartnership Appraisement Record, 1876–date, 1 v.

Minors' Inventory Record, 1872–1902, 2 v. (A–B); 1902–date, 1 v. (C)

Conservators' Record of Inventories and Reports, 1898–date, 2 v.

Record of Sale Bills, 1898–date, 1 v.

Sale Bill of Estate Record, 1872–1898, 1 v.; 1875–date, 3 v.

REPORT RECORDS, ETC.

Estate Ledger, 1838–1847, 1 v.; 1838–1853, 1 v.; 1866–1869, 1 v.

Ledger Account of Estate Claimants, 1877–1883, 1 v.

Probate Estate Ledger, 1856–1858, 1 v.; 1853–1865, 1 v.; 1859–1871, 2 v.; 1871–1875, 1 v.; 1875–1877, 1 v.; 1875–1880, 1 v.; 1881, 1 v.; 1882–1903, 4 v.; 1903–date, 3 v.

The first two volumes contain guardians also.

Guardians' Estate Ledger, 1868–1871, 1 v.; 1870–1875, 1 v.; 1875–1882, 1 v.; 1878–1886, 1 v.; 1883–1886, 1 v.; 1886–1907, 3 v.; 1907–date, 1 v.

Guardians' Reports, 1883–1900, 2 v.; 1885–1891, 1 v.; 1886–1904, 1 v.

Liability Record "C," 1850–1875, 2 v.

This is a kind of estate ledger.

Report Record, 1883–date, 23 v. (1, 3, 4, 8–27)

The record contains administrators', executors', and guardians' reports.

Widows' Relinquishment and Selection Record, 1882–date, 3 v.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Accounts of Vermilion County, 1854–1857, 1 v.

Probate Clerks' Register of Fees, 1 v., current.

Clerks' Docket, County Court, 1896–1907, 3 v.

Criminal Docket, County Court, 1901–1909, 2 v.

Naturalization Docket, 1903–1906, 1 v.

Judges' Docket (common law), 1896–1905, 2 v.; 1896–1907, 2 v.

Clerk of the Circuit Court

CIRCUIT COURT RECORDS

Circuit Court Record: Common Law, Criminal and Chancery,

1826–1862, 8 v. (A–H); Common Law and Criminal, 1862–1876, 7 v. (I–O); Common Law, 1876–1892, 11 v. (P–Z), 1892–date, 8 v. (1–8); Criminal, 1876–1912, 15 v. (1–15); Current, 2 v. (17–18)

Chancery Court Record, 1861–date, 86 v. (1–86)

Loose-leaf volumes are now used for decrees and bound books for court proceedings.

Complete Record, 1828–1844, 2 v. (A–B)

Record of Confession in Vacation, 1877–date, 2 v.; Confession in term, 1911–date, 1 v.; Default, 1858–1863, 1 v. (F); c. 1870, 1 v.

Recognizance Record, 1870–date, 4 v.

Record of Application for Discharge under Parole Law, 1897–1898, 1 v.

Rough Court Record, 1879–1896, 4 v.; 1900–1908, 3 v.; 1909–1911, 1 v.

Estate Index (to Circuit court record, v. A–H; Chancery record, v. 1–67; and Complete record, v. A–B)

Plaintiffs' and Defendants' Index, 1886–1888, 1 v.; 1873–date, 12 v. (A–L) each for plaintiff and defendant.

Circuit Court Files: Common Law, 1860–date, 425 f.b.; Criminal, 1826–1868, 11 f.b.; 1868–date, 132 f.b.; Chancery, 1868–date, 475 f.b.

Previous to 1868 both common law and chancery papers are in 61 f.b., numbered and indexed.

Index to Files, 1868–1877, 1 v.; also 1 v. each for plaintiff and defendant.

Naturalization Record, 1860–1902, 1 v.; Declaration of Intention, 1860–1906, 1 v.; Final Certificate, 1860–1902, 2 v.; Soldiers and Minors, 1876–1900, 1 v.

Naturalization Papers, 1838–1900, 1 f.b.

DOCKETS AND FEE BOOKS

Judges' Docket, 1859–1901, 21 v. (D–X); 1901–date, 11 v.

Criminal Judges' Docket, 1860–1902, 12 v. (A–L); 1903–date, 8 v.

Judges' Docket, Chancery, 1867–1898, 16 v. (A–P); 1901–1902, 1 v.; 1898–1903, 2 v. (U–V); 1903–date, 12 v.

Bench Docket, 1862, 1 v.

Entry Docket: Chancery, 1883–1891, 2 v.; 1904–date, 4 v.; Common Law, 1888–1897, 3 v.; 1895–1904, 4 v.; 1904–date, 4 v.; Criminal, 1883–1890, 1 v.

Criminal, Common Law, and Chancery Dockets, 1 v. each, current.

Clerks' Docket: Common Law, 1872, 1 v.; 1874–1875, 1 v.; 1875, 1 v.; 1876, 1 v.; 1877, 1 v.; 1878, 1 v.; 1879–1883, 2 v.; 1889–1891, 1 v.; 1901–1904, 1 v.; Chancery, 1875, 1 v.; 1877–1879, 2 v.; 1880, 1 v.; 1881–1882, 1 v.; Criminal, 1877–1884, 1 v.; 1885–1891, 1 v.; Common Law, Criminal and Chancery, 1873, 1 v.; Common Law and Chancery, 1874, 2 v.

Rough Docket, 1864–1870, 1 v.

Rough Clerks' Docket, 1877, 1 v.

Judgment Docket, 1839–1856, 1 v.; 1857–1878, 4 v.; 1878–1896, 5 v. (E–I)

Execution Docket, 1827–1901, 8 v. (A–H)

Judgment and Execution Docket, 1896–date, 9 v. (J–R)

Præcipes for Executions, 1874–1908, 8 v.

Executions, c. 1830–1900, 3 f.b.

Docket of Mechanics' Liens, 1888–date, 2 v.

Mechanics' Liens, 1892–date, 3 f.b.

Fee Book, 1827–1836, 1 v.; 1836–1840, 1 v.; 1842–1863, 6 v.; 1861–date, 42 v. (H–Z, 1–23)

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Justice of the Peace Transcript Record, 1847–1861, 1 v.; 1861–date, 8 v.

Justice of the Peace Transcripts, 1869–1882, 4 f.b.

States Attorneys' and Masters' Reports, 1885–date.

Bond of Replevy Fine and Cost, 1897–date, 2 v.

This is a record of defendant's plea to replevy a fine, and bond.

Capias Bonds, 1897–1903, 1 f.b.

Appeal Bonds, 1892–1900, 1 f.b.

Reports of Inquests, 1873–1893, 1 f.b.; 1888–1897, 1 f.b.

Official Bonds, 1827–1887, 1 f.b.

Bills not Found by the Grand Jury, 1876–1909, 1 f.b.

Subpœnas and Bench Warrants, 1905–1906, 1 f.b.

Miscellaneous Papers, 1863–1890, 1 f.b.

Wardens' Receipts for Prisoners at Penitentiary, 1889–1907, 1 f.b.

Record of Additions to Danville Plats, and Divisions into Lots.

There are two other volumes apparently at one time intended as an abstract index, but never used.

Record of Collectors' Bonds, 1851–1868, 1 v.

Record of Sheriffs' Certificates of Levy, 1841–1867, 1 v.; 1867–1872, 1 v.

Record of Receipts and Expenditures (fees, etc.), 1873–1904, 2 v.; 1909–date, 2 v.

Fee Journal, 1908–current, 3 v.

Memorandum of Fees Collected, 1880–1883, 1 v.

States Attorneys' Report to Circuit Court, 1877–date, 2 v.

Register of Jurors, 1861–1872.

Venires, 1880–date, 3 f.b.

Bills of Exceptions to Supreme Court.

Journal of the United States Revenue Collector, 1865, 1883, 1 v.

Recorder

DEED AND MORTGAGE RECORDS

Entry Book, 1838–1850, 1 v.; 1856–1890, 20 v. (B–U); since 1890, 1 v. entry book each for mortgages and deeds each year.

The volumes give date, mortgagor, mortgagee, date of deed, description, number of acres, instrument, book and page, and delivery.

Deed Record, 1827–1862, 26 v. (A–Z, 1 v. recopied); 1882–date, 260 v. (1–260)

These include volumes for masters' deeds, sheriffs' deeds, cemetery deeds, certificates of election, Odd Fellows' trustees, drainage assessments, articles of agreement and bills of sale.

Mortgage Record, 1858–date.

Plat Record, 1879–1900, 1 v.; 1871–1905, 1 v.

Deed Indexes, 1827–1873, grantee, 4 v.; 1827–1873, grantor, in 24 v. (one for each letter); 1873–1890, 9 v. each for grantor and grantee; 1 v. each for grantor and grantee each year since 1891.

Index to Plats in Deed Records, 1 v.

Mortgage Index, 1874–1891, 11 v. each for mortgagor and mortgagee; 1891–date, 2 v. for each year.

Index to Marginal Releases, 1905–date, 1 v.

The index lists mortgagor, mortgagee, date of mortgage, release, decree, and by whom released.

Chattel Mortgage Record, 1868–date, 84 v.

Index to Chattel Mortgages, 1899–1906, 4 v. each for mortgagor and mortgagee; 1907–1908, 1 v.; 1909–1910, 1 v.; 1909–1913, mortgagor, 3 v.; 1911–date, mortgagee, 2 v.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Sheriffs' and Masters' Certificate of Redemption Record, 1877–1889, 1 v.

Certificate of Levy, Sale, and Redemption Record, 1894–date, 1 v.

Sheriffs' Sale Record, 1857–1892, 5 v.; also includes masters'.

Masters' Certificate of Sale Record, 1870–date, 2 v.

See also Circuit Clerk, Miscellaneous Records.

Original Entry Book, 1 v.

United States Plats and Surveys, 1 v.

Special Assessment Release Record, 1892–1901, 2 v.

The second volume records date of payment, by whom, for what real estate, number of instalments, amount, interest, total.

Record of Articles of Incorporation, 1891–date, 3 v.

Town Collectors' Bond Record, 1888–date, 2 v.

Township Treasurers' Bond Record, 1891–1912, 1 v.

Judgment Docket, 1853–1857, 1 v.

This contains also entries of official oaths and bonds, etc., mainly of deputy recorders, 1860–date.

Record of Soldiers' Discharges, 1865–date, 1 v.

Special Assessments[?], 1892–1901, 1 v.

Drainage Record, 1880–1883, 1 v.

Lien on Gets, 1 v.

Recorders' Receipts and Expenditures Record, 1901–date, 13 v.

WABASH COUNTY[1]

Wabash county was set off from Edwards in 1824; the county seat is Mt. Carmel. The courthouse was burned April 5 1857.

County Clerk

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' AND SUPERVISORS' RECORDS

County Commissioners' Court Record, June 6, 1825–December 4, 1832, 1 v., in vault; September 4, 1844–March, 1857, 1 v.

The record includes matters relating to roads, bridges, ferries; orders for payment of money, lists of jurors, and statement of property assessed and taxes charged, 1856. These two volumes were in the clerk's house at the time of the fire and were thus saved.

County Commissioners' Court Record, April, 1857–date, 7 v. (A–G)

County Commissioners' Papers, July, 1874–date, tied up in heavy paper envelopes and piled on shelves.

Register of County Orders, 1866–1882, 2 v. (A–B)

Register of Mt. Carmel, St. Louis and N. A. railroad bonds, 1873, 1 v.

COUNTY COURT RECORDS

County Court Record (common law and criminal), 1872–date, 3 v. (A–C)

Record of Defaults, 1876–1909, 1 v. (1)

Index to Court Record (plaintiff and defendant), 1872–1900.

County Court Files (common law and criminal), 1872–date, 99 f.b.

A few additional papers are wrapped in folders and laid on top of filing-boxes.

Record of Proceedings of the Drainage Commissioners, 1872–1899, 4 v.

The volumes record assessments, letting of contracts for work, plats of drainage districts and of the ditches, orders for payment of money for work done, etc.

[1] Examined December, 1911.

Drainage District Papers, 1881–date, 17 f.b.

The papers include oaths of drainage commissioners, poll books of their election, claims for damages sustained, etc.

Insanity Files, c. 1875–1903, on top of case; 1903–date, 7 f.b.

Naturalization Record, 1885–1897, 1 v.

Declarations of intention are recorded.

Naturalization Papers, 1 f.b.

Judges' Docket (common law and criminal), 1872–date, 3 v. (A–C)

Clerks' Docket, 1908–date, 1 v. (A)

Judgment Docket, 1872–1904, 1 v. (A)

Execution Docket, 1859–1892, 1 v.

Execution Docket, August, 1872–October, 1910, 1 v. (A)

Fee Book (common law and criminal), 1872–date, 9 v. (A–I)

Bond Record, 1876–date, 2 v. (A–B)

TAXATION RECORDS

Tabular Statement of Taxes on Lands and Lots, 1907–1910, giving the footings of various columns (Keensburg, Lancaster, Allendale, Mt. Carmel, and Bellmont districts, in five separate folders or folios)

Entries of Conveyances (lands), 1872–1873, 1 v.

Entries of Conveyances (lots), 1872–1873, 1 v.

School Plat Book, 1858–1873, 1 v.

The volume contains plats and notes.

Tax Levies, 1889–date, 7 f.b.

Assessors' Books, 1858–1898, in attic; 1857, 1899–date, in vault.

Collectors' Books, 1859–date.

Railroad Tax Book, 1873–date, 3 v.

Railroad Tax Book, 1890–1908, 1 v., in circuit clerk's vault.

Tax Judgment Record, 1858–1865, 1 v.; 1873–1879, 2 v.

Tax Sale Record, 1873–1879, 1 v.

Tax Sale and Redemption Record, 1858–1870, 1 v.; 1879, 1 v.

Tax Forfeiture Record, 1879, 1 v.

Tax Judgment, Sale, Redemption, and Forfeiture Record, 1881–1882, 1885–1888, 1900–date, 3 v.

Record of Affidavits for Tax Deeds, 1875–1910, 1 v.

Collectors' Accounts with County, 1875–date, 1 v.

RECORDS OF VITAL STATISTICS

Marriage Record, 1857–August, 1874, 2 v. (A–B)

The record contains licenses and certificates of marriage.

Marriage Register, July, 1874–December, 1906, 1 v. (E)

The register lists date of license and number; names and ages of parties, and by whom sworn to, date of marriage and name of officer.

Index to above volumes A, B, and E, by male, 1 v.

Register of Marriages, 1877–date, 2 v. (1–2); Index by male and female, 1 v.

Board of health form is used.

Record of Applications for Marriage License, 1907–date, 2 v. (1–2)

Marriage Licenses, 1858–date.

Licenses prior to c. 1885 are in attic; later ones are in vault on top of shelves.

Register of Births, 1877–date, 3 v. (1–3); Index, 1 v.

Register of Still Births, 1877–date, 1 v.; Index, 1 v.

Register of Deaths, 1877–date, 4 v.

Birth Reports and Death Reports, in attic.

Record of Physicians' Certificates, 1877–date, 1 v. (1)

Dental Surgery Register, 1877–date, 1 v. (1)

Agricultural Statistics, 1910, 5 folios (each for a different township)

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Election Papers, Tally Sheets and Register of Voters, c. 1888–1906, in attic.

Those from 1908 are piled on top of filingboxes in vault.

Register of County Officers, 1857–date, 1 v.

Estray Record, 1857–1884, 1 v.

Militia Record, 1861–1862, 1 v. (A)

Treasurers' Accounts, 1874–date, 2 v.

These are accounts of money received and paid out.

Swamp Land Record, 1857–1861, 1 v.

Drainage Tax Book, 1892–date, 3 v.

The volume contains assessments for drainage.

Miscellaneous Record, 1898–date, 3 small v.

The volumes contain licenses of architects, records of partnership agreements, records of elections of trustees and officers of lodges and societies, etc.

County Clerk—Probate

PROBATE COURT RECORDS

Probate Court Record, April, 1857–date, 17 v. (A–Q)

The contents include: petitions to court for letters of administration; claims filed against estates and judgment of court on them; reports of business done by clerk during vacation of court; order of court in regard to the sale of real estate; reports of settlement by administrators, guardians or executors.

Probate Files (estates, guardianships, wills, etc.), 1857–date, 270 f. b.

The papers are indexed and filed together chronologically in paper filingboxes set in wooden pigeonholes.

Index to Estate Papers, 1 v. (A), labeled "Docket of Settlements."

DOCKETS AND FEE BOOKS

Judges' Docket, Probate, 1882–date, 5 v. (C–G)

This is a docket of general probate proceedings.

Probate Judgment Docket, 1859–1902, 3 v.

The volumes contain judgment of court on claims against estates.

Probate Estate Docket, 1857–date, 2 v. (A–B)

Probate Fee Book, 1860–date, 7 v. (A–G)

RECORDS OF WILLS, BONDS, AND LETTERS

Record of Wills, 1857–date, 2 v. (A–B)

There is also a volume containing depositions in regard to wills the records of which were destroyed in the fire.

Administrators' Record, 1864–date, 5 v. (B–F)

Administrators de Bonis Non Record, 1873–date, 1 v.

Executors' Record, 1872–1904, 2 v. (A–B); 1899–date, 1 v. (2)

Guardians' Record, 1868–date, 4 v.

"Trusteeship Record," 1911–date, 1 v. (1)

Petition, oath, bond and letters are recorded.

INVENTORIES, APPRAISEMENTS, AND SALE BILLS

"Record of Appraisement, Inventory and Sale Bills, and Widows' Relinquishment & Selection," February–June, 1866, 1 v. (A)

Inventory Record, August, 1866–date, 3 v. (C–E)

Guardians' Inventory Record, 1873–date, 1 v. (1)

Record of Appraisement and Sale Bills, 1856–1862, 1 v. (1)

Appraisement Bill Record, 1866–1909, 3 v. (C–E)
Sale Bill Record, 1869–date, 2 v. (C–D)

REPORT RECORDS, ETC.

Administrators' Report Record, 1897–date, 1 v. (C)
Guardians' Report Record, 1878–1880, v. A; 1885–date, 3 v. (1–3)
Record of Reports, 1881–1897, 1 v. (B)
Probate Ledger, 1859–date, 2 v. (A–B)
Insolvent Estate Record, 1876–1908, 1 v. (A)
Widows' Relinquishment and Selection Record, 1872–date, 3 v. (A–C)

Clerk of the Circuit Court

CIRCUIT COURT RECORDS

Circuit Court Record, 1860–date, 17 v. (A–Q)
Up to 1885, chancery cases were recorded with common law and criminal records; after that date they are in separate volumes but in the same series.
Decree Record (divorce), 1911, 1 v. (1)
Record of Judgment by Confession, 1896–date, 1 v. (1)
Parole Record, 1896, 1 v.
Index to Court Records, 2 v. each for plaintiff and defendant.
Circuit Court Files (common law, chancery, and criminal), April, 1857–date, 171 f.b.
All case papers are filed together as they are disposed of.
Naturalization Record, 1860–1895, 2 v.
The record includes declarations of intention and final certificates.

DOCKETS, FEE BOOKS, ETC.

General Docket, 1881–date, 2 v. (1–2)
The docket lists parties and attorneys, date commenced, appealing party, from whom appealed, kind of action and remarks.
Judges' Docket, 1857–date, 9 v. (A–I)
Circuit Court Docket, 1857–1860, 1 v. (A)
Clerks' Docket, 1865–1886, 6 v.; 1886–date, 5 v. (1–5)
Judgment Docket, 1857–1874, 1 v.
Execution Docket, 1857–1874, 1 v.
Judgment and Execution Docket, 1875–date, 4 v. (1–4)
Lien Record (mechanics' liens), 1888–date, 2 v. (1–2)

Lien Docket, 1872–1875, 1 v.
Fee Book, 1857–date, 15 v.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Justice of the Peace Transcript Record, 1856–date, 3 v. (A–C)
States Attorneys' Report Record, 1877–date, 1 v. (1)
Indictment Record, 1883–date, 1 v. (A)
Coroners' Inquests, 1883–date, 1 f.b.
Collectors' Accounts with County, 1876–date, 2 v.
These are accounts of taxes collected, where deposited, etc.
Sheriffs' Receipts and Expenditures, 1892–date, 3 v. (C–E)
Circuit Clerks' Register of Fees, 1897–date, 2 v. (3–4)

Circuit Clerk—Recorder

DEED AND MORTGAGE RECORDS

Entry Book, 1860–date, 5 v. (A–E)
Deed Record, October, 1856–date, 45 v. (A–Z, 1–19)
Quit Claim Deed Record, 1869–date, 5 v. (A–E)
Index to Deed Records, 4 v. each for grantor and grantee.
The old deed index, 1857–1907, was copied into this index.
Mortgage Record, 1857–date, 35 v. (A–Z, 1–9)
Index to Mortgage Records, 3 v. each for mortgagor and mortgagee.
Index to Marginal Releases (of mortgages), 1901–date, 1 v. (1)
Plat Record, 1888–date, 1 v. (1)
Index to Plats, c. 1837–date, 1 v.
This is an index to plats recorded in deed record.
Chattel Mortgage Record, 1869–date, 10 v. (A–J)
General Index to Chattel Mortgage Record (by mortgagor), c. 1888–date, 1 v.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Record of Sheriffs' Certificates of Levy, Sale, and Redemption, 1866–date, 2 v. (A–B)
Masters' Certificates of Sale Record, 1860–date, 2 v.
Land Book [Original Entry Book], 1814–c. 1855, 1 v.
Date of purchase, number of acres, description of land, township and range, and name of purchaser are given.

Bounty and Pension Record, 1866–1867, 1 v.

The volume contains petitions and records of bounties or pensions for service in the civil war.

Soldiers' Discharge Record, 1866–1883, 1 v. (A)

Stallion Register, 1910–date, 1 v. (1)

WARREN COUNTY[1]

Warren County was established by act of January 13, 1825 out of territory attached to Pike; but it was not organized till 1830. The county seat is Monmouth. The courthouse is fireproof, but has no vaults. The filing material is modern.

County Clerk

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' AND SUPERVISORS' RECORDS

County Commissioners' Court Record, 1830–1849, 4 v. (A–D), indexed in separate volume.

The volumes contain: record of roads, bridges, ferries, etc.; tavern and ferry licenses and rates; lists of jurors; allowances for claims; road plats and surveys, description of road and election districts. Volume 1 contains plat of original town of Monmouth and record of the sale of the lots.

County Court Record, 1849–1864, 2 v. (D, pp. 152–480, and E)
Supervisors' Record, 1864–date, 5 v. (F–J)
Supervisors' Papers, 1860–date, 98 f.b.

All but recent papers are in storeroom.

Road Petitions, Reports, etc., 1834–1865, 6 p.h., in storeroom.
Register of Railroad Bonds, 1853 *et seq.*, 1 v.
Jury List, 1872–date, 2 v. (1–2)

COUNTY COURT RECORDS

County Court Record, 1859–1869, 1 v. (A)

This is a record of common law cases.

County Court Record, 1872–date, 3 v. (1–3)
Recognizance Record, 1872–1897, 1 v. (A)
Confession Record, 1895–1899, 1 v. (1)
County Court Files, 1859–1869, 17 f.b. (1–17), in storeroom.

[1] Examined July, 1912.

County Court Files: Common Law and Criminal, 1872–date, 28 f.b.; Special Assessments, 1898–date, 7 f.b.

Index to files including special assessments, 1 v.

Index to County Court Records, 1904–date, 1 v. each for plaintiff and defendant.

Assignment Record, 1879–1897, 2 v. (1–2)

Adoption, Dependency and Delinquency Record, 1905–date, 1 v. (1)

Insanity Record, 1878–date, 4 v.

Insanity Files, 1873–1910, 11 f.b. (31–41), in storeroom.

Current files are in office.

Naturalization Record, Final Certificate, 1872–1906, 2 v.

Judges' Docket, 1859–1869, 1 v. (A)

Judges' Docket, 1872–date, 3 v., and loose-leaf volumes since 1909.

Judgment Docket, 1859–1869, 1 v. (A); 1872–date, 1 v. (1)

Execution Docket, 1859–1870, 1 v. (A); 1872–date, 1 v. (1)

Judges' Insanity Docket, 1893–date, 2 v. (1–2)

County Court Fee Book, 1872–date, 4 v. (1–4)

TAXATION RECORDS

County Clerk's Statement of Taxes to Auditor, 1870–date, 1 v.

These are abstracts showing total amount of assessment, tax rates, and amount of various county taxes.

Assessors' Books (lands), 1835, 1838–date, all in storeroom except 1909–date.

Collectors' Books, 1839–date, in vault.

Railroad, Telegraph, and Telephone Tax Book, 1873–date, 3 v. (1–3)

Board of Review Record, 1899–date, 2 v. (1–2)

Tax Judgment Record, 1840–1879, 4 v. (B–E)

Tax Sale and Redemption Record, 1823–1862, 4 v.

Record of Forfeited Lands, 1873–1878, 1 v. (1)

Tax Judgment, Sale, Redemption, and Forfeiture Record, 1880–date, 6 v. (E–J)

Record of Affidavits for Tax Deeds, 1849–1865, 1 v.; 1872–date, 4 v. (A–D)

RECORDS OF VITAL STATISTICS

Marriage Record, 1831–1877, 4 v. (A–D)

The record contains date of license, names of parties, date of marriage and by whom married.

Register of Marriages, 1878–date, 2 v. (1–2); Index, 2 v.
Board of health form is used.

Record of Applications for Marriage License, 1878–date, 23 v.
Marriage Licenses, 1831–date.
Those from 1831–1911 are in attic storeroom, in 40 p.h.

Register of Births, 1878–date, 5 v. (1–5)
Register of Still Births, 1877–date, 1 v. (1)
Register of Deaths, 1878–date, 3 v. (1–3)
Birth Reports, 1877–1910, 17 p.h.
Death Reports, 1877–1910, 14 p.h.
The reports, 1910–date, are in office. Those prior to 1910 are in storeroom, third floor.

Record of Physicians' Certificates, 1877–date, 2 v. (1–2)
Record of Registered Nurses, 1910–date, 1 v. (1)
Register of Physicians and Accoucheurs, 1877–date, 1 v. (1)
Tabulated Agricultural Statistics, 1878–1898, 1 folio for each township each year, in attic storeroom.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Assessors' Bond Record, 1899–date, 1 v. (1)
Docket of Official Bonds, 1870–date, 2 v. (1–2)
This is a docket of bonds of county officers.

Register of County Officers, 1831–date, 4 v. (A–D)
Names and residence of county officers, date of election and length of term are registered.

Estray Record, 1831–1878, 2 v.
Volume 1 is in storeroom.

"Marks & Brands," 1830–1902, 1 v., 8 x 13 inches.
Militia Roll Record, 1861–1862, 1 v. (A)
Stallion Certificate Record, 1904–1910, 1 v.
Record of School Lands and Volunteers' Bounty Orders, 1 v.
This is a record of sale of school lands and money loaned, 1831–1851; and of military bounty orders, 1861–1867, giving number of order, amount, date, and to whom issued.

Miscellaneous Record, 1907–date, 1 v.

County Clerk—Probate

PROBATE COURT RECORDS

Probate Record, 1831–1840, 2 v. (A–B)

The record contains wills, letters and bonds, appraisements, inventories and sale bills, claims, reports and settlements, orders and decrees; also Negro and apprenticeship indentures.

Probate Record, 1840–1842, 1 v. (B[1])

The volume contains wills, letters, bonds, allowance of claims, court orders, reports and settlements of administrators, guardians, etc.

Probate Record, 1842–1849, 2 v. (C–D)

The record includes wills, bonds, letters, sale and inventory bills, claims, reports, settlements, orders and decrees of court, bonds and letters of administrators, executors and guardians, etc.

Probate Record, 1849–date, 15 v. (E–S)

This is a record of court proceedings; in the first few volumes there are also a few wills, etc.

Orders and Decrees, Probate, 1907–date, 2 v. (A–B)

Probate Files, 1830–date: Estates, 208 f.b.; Guardianships, 16 f.b.

Index to Probate Files, 1 v.

The index lists name of estate and number of filingbox.

DOCKETS AND FEE BOOKS

Probate Estate Docket, 1860–date, 3 v. (A–C)

Guardians' Estate Docket, 1904–date, 1 v. (1)

Allowance Book, 1871–1908, 1 v. (B)

List of claims allowed against estates, giving name of claimant, date, nature of claim and amount are given.

Probate Judgment Ledger, 1909–date, 1 v. (C)

The contents are the same as above.

Probate Judgment Docket, 1859–date, 5 v. (A–E)

Docket of Official Bonds, Probate, 1871–date, 3 v. (A–C)

Probate Fee Book, 1852–date, 11 v. (1, A–J)

RECORDS OF WILLS, BONDS, AND LETTERS

Record of Wills, Bonds, and Letters, 1849–1855, 1 v.

Wills, bonds, and letters of administrators, executors, and guardians are recorded.

Record of Wills, Bonds, and Letters, 1855–1879, 2 v. (A–B)

Record of Wills, 1879–date, 3 v. (C–E)

Administrators' Record, 1854–date, 7 v. (1, A–F)
Executors' Record, 1859–date, 4 v. (A–D)
Conservators' Record, 1878–date, 3 v.
Guardians' Record, 1859–date, 4 v. (A–D)
Record of Miscellaneous Bonds and Letters, 1879–date, 1 v. (A)

INVENTORIES, APPRAISEMENTS, AND SALE BILLS

Appraisement, Inventory, and Sale Bill Record, 1849–1857, 1 v.
Inventory Record, 1859–date, 6 v. (A–F)
Guardians' Inventory Record, 1872–date, 1 v. (1)
Appraisement Record, 1859–date, 7 v. (A–G)
Sale Record, 1859–date, 5 v. (A–E)

REPORT RECORDS, ETC.

Record of Accounts Current, 1837–1862, 4 v. (1–2, A–B)
Accounts of all money received or paid out by agent of the estate are recorded.
Administrators' and Executors' Ledger, 1860–date, 9 v. (A–I)
Guardians' Report Record, 1871–date, 5 v. (B–F)
Insolvent Estate Record, 1883–1897, 1 v. (1)
Widows' Relinquishment and Selection Record, 1872–date, 3 v.
"County Court Record, Chancery," 1850–date, 6 v. (A–F)
Proceedings on petitions to sell real estate to pay debts are recorded.

Clerk of the Circuit Court

CIRCUIT COURT RECORDS

Circuit Court Record (common law and criminal), 1831–date, 21 v. (A–U)
Chancery Record, 1830–date, 35 v. (1–35)
Index to Court Records, 1858–date, 3 v. each for plaintiff and defendant.
Orders in Chancery, 1857–date, 5 v. (1–5)
This is a record of orders of the court.
Circuit Court Files (common law, chancery, and criminal), 1830–date, 497 f.b.
Naturalization Record, 1860–1906, 5 v. (A–E)

DOCKETS, FEE BOOKS, ETC.

Judges' Docket, 1830–date, 29 v. (A–Z, 1–3)

Volumes A–X are in storeroom. The last three volumes (1909–date) are loose leaf.

Judgment Docket, 1874–date, 3 v. (1–3)

Execution Docket, 1831–date, 5 v. (1–5)

Docket of Mechanics' Liens, 1887–date, 1 v. (1)

Fee Book, 1830–date, 20 v. (A–T)

Volumes A–F, 1830–1860, are in storeroom.

Justice of the Peace Transcript Record, 1847–date, 3 v. (1–3)

Circuit Clerk—Recorder

Entry Book, 1830–date, 23 v. (1–23)

Volumes 1–10 are in storeroom.

Transcribed Record (deeds and mortgages), 1820–1830, 4 v. (A–D)

Deed Record, 1830–date, 116 v. (1–116)

Mortgage Record, 1844–date, 49 v. (1–49)

Index to Marginal Releases and Assignments, 1905–date, 1 v. (1)

Index to Powers of Attorney, 1850–date, 1 v.

Tract Index, 1830–date: Lands, 15 v.; Town Lots, 7 v.

General Index, 1830–date, 9 v. each for grantor and grantee.

Chattel Mortgage Record, 1855–date, 40 v. (1–40); Index, 3 v.

Volumes 1–20 are in storeroom.

Record of Certificates of Levy, Sale, and Redemption (masters and sheriffs), 1859–date, 7 v.

Township Treasurers' Bond Record, 1889–date, 1 v. (1)

Stallion Register, 1910–date, 2 v. (1–2)

WASHINGTON COUNTY[1]

Washington county was set off from St. Clair in 1818; the county seat is Nashville. The courthouse is not fireproof but stands in a public square apart from other buildings. The vaults are small but fireproof. In the county clerk's vault the books are "on end" and the files are in tin cases in wooden pigeonholes. The circuit clerk's vault has steel shelves but not steel filing cases.

County Clerk

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' AND SUPERVISORS' RECORDS

County Commissioners' Record, 1818–1836, 1 v. (8 x 13 inches); 1846–1883, 5 v.

Supervisors' Record, 1883–date, 3 v.

Road Record, 1875–date, 1 v.

This contains plats of roads.

Road Papers, 1837–1885, 7 f.b.

The papers contain petitions, plats, surveys; they are arranged excellently, papers relating to each road being in an envelope by themselves.

Jury List, 1872–date, 1 v.

COUNTY COURT RECORDS

County Court Record, 1872–date, 2 v.

Insane and Conservators' Record, 1879–1905, 2 v.

This is a record of trial, and bond and letters of conservator.

Insanity Record, 1893–1907, 1 v.

Naturalization Record, 1865–1905, 4 v.

Judges' Docket, 1872–date, 5 v.

The volumes contain probate matters also.

Execution Docket, 1872–1908, 1 v.

Insanity Docket, 1893–date, 1 v.

County Court Fee Book, 1872–date, 2 v.

[1] Examined May, 1912.

TAXATION RECORDS

County Clerks' Statement of Taxes to Auditor, 1903–1909, 1 v.
Docket of Rates and Amounts Wanted, 1883–1909, 3 v.
Land Entry Book, 1815–1866, 1 v.
Assessors' Books and Collectors' Books, 1853–date.
Those earlier than 1905 are in jury room upstairs.
Railroad Tax Book, 1884–date, 2 v.
Board of Review Record, 1899–1903, 1 v.
Tax Judgment Record, 1860–1879, 4 v.
Tax Sale Record, 1857–1880, 3 v.
Record of Forfeited Lands, 1859–1870, 1 v.
Tax Judgment, Sale, Redemption, and Forfeiture Record, 1880–date, 2 v.
Record of Affidavits for Tax Deeds, 1881–date, 4 v.

RECORDS OF VITAL STATISTICS

Marriage Record, 1832–1865, 1 v. (8 x 13 inches); 1857–date, 2 v.
The first volume contains certificates of marriage; the second date of license, name of parties, date of marriage, by whom, and after 1874, ages of parties also.
Register of Marriages, 1877–date, 2 v.
Index to Marriages (male and female), 1832–date, 3 v.
Register of Births, 1877–date, 5 v.
Still births are in same volumes since 1901.
Register of Still Births, 1877–1901, 1 v.
Register of Deaths, 1877–date, 4 v.
Index to Births and Deaths: Births, 2 v.; Deaths, 1 v.
Birth Reports and Death Reports, 1877–date.
Register of Physicians and Record of Physicians' Certificates, 1877–date, 1 v.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Assessors' Bond Record, 1899–date, 1 v.
Register of County Officers, 1861–date, 1 v.
Militia Roll Record, 1861–1862, 1 v.
Certificates of Thoroughbred Stock, 1888–1907, 1 v.
Record of Marks and Brands, 1818–1878, 1 v., 6 x 8 inches.
Estray Record, 1874–1905, 1 v.

Since 1899 this has been used for a veterinary surgeons' certificate record.

Swamp Land Record, 1855, 1 v.

The volume records sale of land, with plats and descriptions.

County Clerk—Probate

PROBATE COURT RECORDS

Probate Record, 1818–1842, 1 v.; 1850–date, 12 v.

Probate Files, 1835–date.

These are filed with the county court papers in 449 f.b.

Index to Probate and County Court Files, 1 v.

DOCKETS AND FEE BOOKS

Probate Estate Docket, 1861–1886, 3 v.

Record of Allowance of Claims, 1851–1860, 1 v.; 1870–date, 4 v.

Contents: lists of claims allowed against estates, giving date of allowance, to whom, amount and nature of claim; each estate is on a separate page.

Probate Fee Book, 1859–date, 6 v.

RECORDS OF WILLS, BONDS, AND LETTERS

Record of Wills, 1867–date, 6 v.

Record of Administrators' and Guardians' Bonds and Letters, 1853–1857, 1 v.

Administrators' Bonds, 1858–1873, 1 v., in jury room.

Administrators' Record, 1863–date, 7 v.

Record of Petitions (administrators), 1897–date, 1 v.

Executors' Record, 1862–1905, 4 v.

Record of Petitions, 1867–1907, 2 v.

Contents: petitions for letters of administration, executorship, and guardianship.

Conservators' Record, 1905–date, 1 v.

Guardians' Bonds and Letters, 1856–1865, 1 v.

Guardians' Bonds, 1872–1879, 1 v.

Record of Guardians' Petitions, 1907–date, 1 v.

Guardians' Record, 1865–date, 6 v.

Miscellaneous Probate Record, 1876–date, 3 v.

De bonis non, etc.

INVENTORIES, APPRAISEMENTS, AND SALE BILLS

Inventory, Appraisement, and Sale Bill Record, 1850–1859, 1 v.
Inventory Record, 1861–1875, 2 v.
Appraisement Record, 1862–1875, 3 v.
Sale Bill Record, 1861–1876, 3 v.

All these records have been discontinued.

Guardians' Inventory Record, 1872–1876, 1 v.
Record of Accounts Current, 1849–1856, 1 v.
Estate Ledger, 1866–date, 8 v.

Two pages are given to each estate, one for receipts and the other for expenditures.

Guardians' Ledger, 1882–date, 4 v.
Decree Record, 1865–date, 3 v.

Decrees in petition to sell real estate are recorded.

Clerk of the Circuit Court

CIRCUIT COURT RECORDS

Circuit Court Record, 1818–date, 25 v.
Index to Court Record, 1858–date, 2 v. each for plaintiff and defendant.
Circuit Court Files, 1818–date, 421 f.b.
Naturalization Record, 1869–1906, 3 v.
Judges' Docket, 1840–date, 17 v.
Execution Docket, 1838–date, 4 v.
Index to Judgment Docket, 1869–date, 1 v.

The index lists number of judgment, against whom rendered, and name of plaintiff; reference to book and page of the judgment docket and fee book, date and amount of judgment, and remarks.

Record of Liens (docket of mechanics liens), 1893–date, 1 v.
Naturalization Docket, 1869–1894, 1 v.

The volume gives name of person applying and date of application, together with order of court.

Fee Book, 1820–1860, 8 v., in attic; 1861–date, 7 v., in vault.
Justice of the Peace Transcript Record, 1847–date, 4 v.
Coroners' Record, 1877–1905, 1 v.
States Attorneys' Report Record, 1877–1908, 1 v.

Circuit Clerk—Recorder

Entry Book, 1841–1852, 1 v.; 1857–1860, 1 v.; 1870–date, 6 v.

Deed and Mortgage Record, 1817–date, 117 v.
Plat Book, 1879–date, 1 v.
Deed Index, 1818–date, 8 v. each for grantor and grantee.
The mortgagor-mortgagee index is in the same book for the first three volumes.
Mortgage Index, 1871–date, 3 v. for both, and 4 v. each for mortgagor and mortgagee.
Index to Marginal Releases and Assignments, 1905–date, 1 v. each for grantor and grantee.
Oil and Gas Lease Record, 1910–date, 2 v.
Record of Certificates of Levy and Sale, 1847–date, 3 v.
Masters' Certificate Record, 1872–date, 2 v.
Surveyors' Record, 1834–1884, 3 v.; 1885–date, 2 v.
Town Collectors' Bond Record, 1883–date, 2 v.
Township Treasurers' Bond Record, 1893–date, 1 v.
Miscellaneous Record, 1870–date, 6 v.

WAYNE COUNTY[1]

Wayne county was divided from Edwards in 1819; the county seat is Fairfield. The courthouse is hardly fireproof. The offices of the clerks are fitted partly with steel fixtures, partly with wooden. The records were almost completely wiped out by a fire in November, 1886.

County Clerk

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' AND SUPERVISORS' RECORDS

Supervisors' Record, 1886–date, 5 v. (G–K)

COUNTY COURT RECORDS

County Court Record (common law and criminal), 1887–date, 5 v. (A–E)
Drainage Record, 1905–date, 3 v.
Insanity Record, 1893–date, 2 v.
Judges' Docket, 1886–date, 3 v. (C–E)
Judgment Docket, 1886–date, 2 v. (B–C)
Execution Docket, 1886–date, 1 v.
Fee Book, 1887–date, 4 v. (C–F)
Drainage Fee Book, 1905–date, 1 v.

TAXATION RECORDS

School Plats, 1889–date, 1 v.
Road Plats, 1889–date, 1 v.
Assessors' Books, 1886–date.
Collectors' Books, 1886–date.
Tax Judgment, Sale, Redemption, and Forfeiture Record, 1886–date.
Record of Affidavits for Tax Deeds, 1886–date, 3 v. (C–E)

RECORDS OF VITAL STATISTICS, ETC.

Register of Marriages, 1886–date, 5 v. (A–E)

[1] Examined July–August, 1912.

Register of Births, 1886–date, 4 v.
Register of Deaths, 1886–date, 2 v.
Register of Physicians and Midwives, 1878–date, 1 v.
Register of Commissions (county officers), 1886–date, 1 v.

County Clerk—Probate

PROBATE COURT RECORDS, ETC.

Probate Record, 1886–date, 7 v. (P–V)
Probate Judgment Docket [?], 1886–date, 1 v.
Probate Judges' Docket, 1886–date, 8 v. (F–M)
Estate Docket, 1886–date, 3 v.
Guardians' Fee Book, 1886–date, 2 v.
Administrators' Fee Book, 1886–date, 3 v.
Miscellaneous Record, 1887–date, 2 v.

RECORDS OF WILLS, BONDS, AND LETTERS

Will Record, 1886–date, 1 v.
Administrators' Record, 1886–date, 3 v.
Executors' Record, 1886–date, 2 v.
Guardians' Record, 1886–date, 3 v.
Record of Miscellaneous Bonds and Letters, 1 v.

INVENTORIES, APPRAISEMENTS, AND SALE BILLS

Inventory Record, 1890–date, 2 v.
Guardians' Inventory Record, 1887–date, 1 v.
Appraisement Record, 1886–date, 3 v.
Sale Record, 1886–date, 2 v.

REPORT RECORDS

Administrators' Report Record, 1886–date, 3 v.
Guardians' Report Record, 1887–date, 5 v.
Record of Sales of Real Estate to Pay Debts, 1893–date, 1 v.
Petition Record, 1903–date, 1 v.
The volume contains both petition and report of sale of real estate.
Decree Record, 1892–date, 2 v.
Guardians' Decree Record, 1890–date, 1 v.
Widows' Relinquishment and Selection Record, 1886–date, 2 v.

Clerk of the Circuit Court

Circuit Court Record, 1819–date, 26 v. (A–Z); Criminal, 1870–date, 3 v.
Circuit Court Files, 1819–date, 251 f.b.
Naturalization Record, 1867–1903, 1 v.
Judges' Docket, 1886–date, 11 v. (J–T)
Judgment Docket, 1886–date, 3 v.
Execution Docket, 1886–date, 2 v.
Fee Book, 1886–date, 14 v. (I–V)
Justice of the Peace Transcript Record, 1886–date, 2 v. (B–C)
Indictment Record, 1886–date, 2 v.

Circuit Clerk—Recorder

Entry Book, 1886–date, 8 v. (C–J)
Deed Record, 1886–date, 74 v. (53–126)
Mortgage Record, 1886–date, 45 v. (X–Z, 26–67)
Plat Record, 1886–date, 1 v.
Chattel Mortgage Record, 1886–date, 10 v. (N–W)
Deed and Mortgage Index.
Record of Sheriffs' Certificates of Levy and Purchase, 1888–date, 1 v.
Surveyors' Record, 3 v.
Miscellaneous Record, 1888–date, 2 v.

WHITE COUNTY[1]

White county was set off from Gallatin in 1815–1816; the county seat is Carmi. The courthouse is not in a public square and is not fireproof. Coal stoves are used. The vaults are small and crowded. From lack of filingboxes, many of the files are merely piled in the vaults; unimportant records are stored in the attic.

County Clerk

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' AND SUPERVISORS' RECORDS

County Commissioners' Court Record, 1816–1849, 2 v.

County Court Record, 1849–1872, 4 v.

Supervisors' Record, 1872–date, 6 v.

County Commissioners' Papers, 1816–1872, 22 f.b.

The papers include claims, oaths, bonds, petitions for roads and inquests ad quod damnum, reports of road viewers.

Supervisors' Papers, 1872–date, 127 f.b.

A few are piled around the office.

Record of Negroes Indentured and Manumitted, 1816–1859, 1 v.

Indentures: Negroes, 1818–1854, 1 f.b. (147); Apprentices, 1 f.b. (146)

Jury List, 1872–date, 2 v.

COUNTY COURT RECORDS

County Court Record, 1872–date, 5 v.

County Court Files, 1872–date,

There are 103 f.b. to 1902; later files are piled about the office.

Index to County Court Files, 2 v.

Voluntary Assignment Record, 1878–1898, 2 v.

Insanity Record, 1881–1893, 1 v.; 1893–date, 2 v.

Trial and order of court are recorded.

Judges' Docket (common law and criminal), 1872–date, 5 v.

Judgment Docket, 1872–date, 3 v.

[1] Examined April, 1912.

Execution Docket, 1872–date, 1 v.
Insanity Docket, 1893–date, 1 v.
Fee Book (common law and criminal), 6 v.

TAXATION RECORDS

Tax Papers, 1837–date, 95 f.b.
The papers include delinquent tax lists, railroad tax schedules, certificates of tax levy, and statements of taxes to auditor.

Land Entry Book, 1816–1860, 1 v.
School Plat Record, 1885–date, 1 v.
Assessors' Books and Collectors' Books, 1870–date.
Delinquent Tax Book, 1844–1852, 3 v.
Tax Judgment Record, 1866–1879, 3 v.
Tax Sale and Redemption Record, 1859–1879, 5 v.
Tax Forfeiture Record, 1872–1879, 3 v.
Tax Judgment, Sale, Redemption, and Forfeiture Record, 1880–date, 5 v.
Record of Affidavits for Tax Deeds, 1866–date, 1 v.
Affidavits for Tax Deeds, 1853–date, 10 f.b.

RECORDS OF VITAL STATISTICS

Marriage Record, 1816–1874, 5 v., indexed.
The record gives names of parties, license, when and by whom married.

Marriage Record, 1874–date, 2 v.; Index, 2 v.
The records give date and number of license, names and ages of parties, by whom affidavit was made, date of marriage, by whom, and when registered.

Register of Marriages, 1877–date, 3 v.; Index, 1 v.
The board of health form is used.

Marriage Licenses, 1816–date, 99 f.b.
Register of Births, 1878–date, 3 v.; Index, 1 v.
Register of Still Births, 1878–date, 1 v.
Register of Deaths, 1878–date, 2 v.; Index, 1 v.
Register of Physicians and Accoucheurs, 1878–date, 1 v.
Register of Dentists, 1878–date, 1 v.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Election Returns, 1848–1902.
Poll books, tally sheets, etc. piled on top of filingboxes.

Record of Bonds of County Officers, 1849–date, 1 v.
The volume is labeled "County Court Record A."

Assessors' Bond Record, 1899–date, 1 v. (1)
Justices' and Constables' Bond Record, 1889–date, 1 v.
Swamp Land Record, 1852–1855, 1 v.; 1856–1857, 1 v.
The first volume gives list of lands and record of sale; the second description and location of land, number of acres and value, to whom sold and when, terms of sale, and remarks.

County Clerk—Probate

PROBATE COURT RECORDS

Probate Record A, 1820–1822, 1 v.
The record contains letters, sale bills, appraisements, wills, current accounts, etc.; also reports of settlements, 1840–1849.

Probate Record B, 1822–1844, 1 v.
Letters, bonds, settlements, etc. are recorded.

Probate Court Record, 1843–1845, 1 v.; 1846–1848, 1 v.
Sale bills, inventories, and letters of administration are recorded.

Probate Record, 1850–1860, 2 v.
Contents: records of proceedings and orders of probate court.

Probate Journal, 1860–date, 30 v.
Probate Files, 1816–date, 525 f.b.; Index, 1 v.

DOCKETS AND FEE BOOKS

Probate Judges' Docket, 1884–date, 7 v. (E–K)
Probate Claim and Judgment Docket, 1885–date, 2 v.
Probate Fee Book, 1876–date, 8 v. (D–K)
Docket of Official Bonds, 1886–date, 3 v.

RECORDS OF WILLS, BONDS, AND LETTERS

Will Record, 1816–1848, 1 v.; 1850–date, 2 v.
Administrators' Record, 1857–date, 5 v.
Executors' Record, 1857–date, 2 v.
Guardians' Record, 1885–date, 2 v.

INVENTORIES, APPRAISEMENTS, SALE BILLS, ETC.

Inventory, Appraisement and Sale Bill Record, 1864–1867, 1 v.
Inventory Record, 1877–date, 4 v. (F–I)

Guardians' Inventory Record, 1873–date, 2 v.
Appraisement Record, 1887–date, 4 v.
Sale Record, 1889–date, 2 v.
Report Record, 1881–date, 9 v.
Guardians' Report Record, 1881–date, 9 v.
Decree and Report Record, Sale of Real Estate, 1901–date, 1 v.

Decrees of court on petitions to sell real estate and reports of sale are recorded.

Clerk of the Circuit Court

Circuit Court Record, 1817–date, 65 v.

Common law, chancery, and criminal records are together until 1850; after that date they are in separate volumes in same series.

Circuit Court Record, Partitions, 1890–date, 4 v.
Circuit Court Record, 1822–1826, 1 v.
Circuit Court Files, 1818–date, 936 f.b.; Index, 1 v.
Naturalization Record, 1860–1898, 2 v.
Judges' Docket, 1849–date, 13 v.

The docket lists parties, action, attorneys, and order of court.

Judgment Docket, 1844–date, 10 v.
Execution Docket, 1821–date, 4 v.
Fee Book, 1828–1852, 2 v.; 1879–date, 17 v. (10–26)
States Attorneys' Report Record, 1873–date, 1 v.
Justice of the Peace Transcript Record, 1848–date, 4 v.
Jury List, 1860–date, 1 v.

Circuit Clerk—Recorder

Entry Book, 1848–1853, 1 v.; 1854–date, 8 v.
Deed Record, 1816–date, 114 v.
Mortgage Record, 1857–date, 41 v.
Chattel Mortgage Record, 1869–date, 44 v.; Index, 4 v.
Miscellaneous Record, 1886–date, 1 v.
General Index, 1816–date, 8 v. each for grantor and grantee.
Index to Marginal Releases and Assignments, 1905–date, 1 v.
Record of Certificates of Levy, Sale, and Redemption, 1858–date, 4 v.
Bond Record, 1899–date, 1 v.

This contains collectors' and town assessors' bonds.

County Surveyors' Record (roads), 1885–date, 1 v.

Surveyors' Record, 1885–date, 2 v.

Record of United States Surveys, 1880, 1 v.

These are plats of notes showing location of corners of sections and quarter sections.

Stallion Register, 1910–date, 1 v.; Renewals, 1911–date, 1 v.

WHITESIDE COUNTY[1]

Whiteside county was formed in 1836 from Jo Daviess and Henry, but was not organized until 1839. The county seat is Morrison. The building in which the offices are housed is hardly fireproof. The vaults are brick with steel casings and wooden floors. The circuit clerk's office in especial calls for commendation; the records are well systematized and in the last six years have been well indexed.

County Clerk

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' AND SUPERVISORS' RECORDS

County Commissioners' and Supervisors' Record, 1839–date, 8 v. (A–H)

Register of County Orders, 1855–date, 10 v.

COUNTY COURT RECORDS

County Court Record (common law and criminal), 1872–date, 3 v.

Default Record, 1858–1895, 1 v.

Confession Record, 1857–1895, 2 v.

County Court Files.

County court, probate, and county commissioners' files are all filed together in the same boxes.

County Court Record of Condemnations and Special Assessments, 1895–date, 3 v.

Drainage Record, 1883–date, 3 v. (A–C)

Insanity Record, 1878–date, 3 v.

Naturalization Record, 1872–1906: Declaration of Intention, 2 v.; Final Certificate, 2 v.; Minors and Soldiers, 3 v.

Judges' Docket (common law and criminal), 1883–date, 3 v.

Judgment Docket, 1857–date, 2 v.

Execution Docket, 1857–date, 1 v.

Judges Docket (special assessments), 1895–date, 2 v.

Insanity Docket, 1893–date, 2 v.

[1] Examined July–August, 1912; reëxamined June, 1915.

County Court Fee Book, 1857–1858, 1 v.
Miscellaneous Fee Book, 1909–date, 1 v.

TAXATION RECORDS

Abstract of Assessment and Taxes: Personal Property, 1839–1890, 1 v.; Lands and Personal Property, 1877–1879, 1889–1906, 3 v.
Record of United States Surveys, 1878, 1 v.
Land Patent Record, 1839–1878, 1 v.
Contents: list of persons to whom land patents have been granted.
School District Plat Record, 2 v.
Assessors' Books, 1849–date.
Collectors' Books, 1852–date.
Railroad Tax Book, 1873–date, 3 v.
Board of Review Record, 1899–date, 2 v.
Board of Review Docket of Complaints, 1899–date, 3 v.
Delinquent Tax Lists, 1848–1849, 1 v.; 1860–1878, 18 v.
Tax Judgment Record 1858–1879, 8 v.
Tax Sale Record, 1860–date, 8 v.
Index to Sale Records, 1851–date, 2 v.
Forfeiture Record, 1860–1906, 3 v.
Record of Forfeited Lands, 1859–1862, 1 v.
Tax Judgment, Sale, Redemption, and Forfeiture Record, 1882–date, 11 v.
Record of Affidavits for Tax Deeds, 1855–date, 6 v. (A–F)
Record of Special Bounty Tax, 1865, 1 v.
This is a delinquent list of persons failing to pay the special bounty tax.

RECORDS OF VITAL STATISTICS, ETC.

Marriage Record, 1839–date, 5 v.
Register of Births and Deaths, 1877–date, 5 v. (1–5); also a separate current v. "6" for each.
Register of County and Township Officers, 1839–date, 1 v.
Military Record, 1861–1865, 1 v.
Miscellaneous Record, 1852–date, 1 v.
The record contains reports of school commissioners, articles of incorporation, register of town officers, etc.
Swamp Land Deeds, 2 v.
Land Description Record (swamp land), 1850 *et seq.*, 1 v.

County Clerk—Probate

PROBATE COURT RECORDS, ETC.

Probate Order Book, 1844–date, 23 v. (A–W)
Probate Judges' Docket, 1858–date, 10 v. (1–10)
Guardians' Docket, 1852–date, 4 v. (A–D)
Probate Judgment Docket, 1859–1886, 3 v.
Probate Judgment Docket Index, 1 v.
Probate Judgments on Claims, 1870–1872, 1 v.
Probate Ledger, 1857–1883, 1 v.
Probate Estate Docket, 1859–1879, 1 v.
Probate Estate and Judgment Docket and Ledger, 1879–date, 12 v. (1–12)
Probate Fee Book, 1842–date, 10 v. (A–J)
Guardians' Fee Book, 1909–date, 1 v.
Conservators' Fee Book, 1909–date, 1 v.

RECORDS OF WILLS, BONDS, LETTERS, ETC.

Record of Wills, 1846–date, 6 v. (A–F)
Administrators' Record, 1855–date, 7 v. (A–G)
Executors' Record, 1868–date, 5 v. (A–E)
Conservators' Record, 1898–date, 2 v.
Record of Guardians' Bonds and Letters, 1859–date, 3 v. (A–C)
Miscellaneous Probate Record, 1879–date, 2 v.

The records include those of conservator, administrator, will annexed, etc.

INVENTORIES, APPRAISEMENTS, SALE BILLS, ETC.

Inventory Record, 1858–date, 8 v. (A–H)
Appraisement Record, 1858–date, 7 v. (A–G)
Guardians' Inventory Record, 1872–date, 2 v. (A–B)
Sale Record, 1859–date, 5 v. (A–E)
Guardians' Report Record, 1858–date, 3 v. (A–C)
Probate Report Record, 1845–date, 14 v. (A–N)
Widows' Relinquishment and Selection Record, 1877–date, 3 v. (A–C)

Clerk of the Circuit Court

Circuit Court Record: Criminal, 1855–date, 6 v. (A–F); Common

Law, 1841–date, 19 v. (A–Q, 17–19); Chancery, 1859–date, 24 v. (2–25)

Circuit Court Files (common law, criminal, and chancery), 1842–date, 1086 f.b.

Naturalization Record: Declaration of Intention, 1847–1906, 1 v.; Final Certificate, 1844–1906, 1 v.; Soldiers and Minors, 1866–1897, 2 v.

Judges' Docket, 1853–1870, 17 v. (1–17); 1870–date, 28 v. (1–28)

Judgment Docket, 1841–date, 20 v. (A–O, 16–20); Index, 1 v.

Execution Docket, 1855–1890, 3 v.

Fee Book, 1841–date, 19 v. (A–K, 12–19)

Justice of the Peace Transcript Record, 1842–date, 5 v. (A–E)

Circuit Clerk—Recorder

Entry Book, 1857–date, 13 v. (A–M)

Deed and Mortgage Record, 1839–date, 235 v. (A–Z, 1–209)

Index, 34 v. each for grantor and grantee.

Plat Record [?], 1854–date, 7 v. (1–7)

Field Notes, 1873, 1 v.

Chattel Mortgage Record, 1858–date, 56 v. (A–Z, 1–30)

Survey Record, 1885–date, 1 v.

Record of United States Surveys [?], 1873, 1 v.

Record of Masters' and Sheriffs' Certificates of Sale and Redemption, 1870–date, 3 v.

Stallion Register, 1911–date, 1 v.

WILL COUNTY[1]

Will county was formed in 1836 out of Cook, Iroquois and Vermilion; the county seat is Joliet. The county has separate recorder's and probate clerk's offices. The courthouse is fireproof. The records are kept, not in vaults, but in fireproof offices, with sheet iron curtains and vaulted concrete and iron ceilings. In both offices the records are carefully arranged and preserved. The files in the attic are carefully wrapped and labeled, and the books are arranged on shelves.

County Clerk

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' AND SUPERVISORS' RECORDS

County Commissioners' Court Record, 1836–1852, 1 v., in attic.

County Commissioners' Court Record, 1836–1850, 3 v.

The record contains: orders relating to roads; licenses of various sorts; provisions for care of poor; lists of jurors, school commissioners, assessors and collectors; tax rates, etc.; report of committee to settle the dispute with Iroquois county.

Supervisors' Record, 1850–date, 15 v.

County Commissioners' Papers, 1836–1850, 16 f.b., in attic.

Supervisors' Papers and Reports, 1850–1894, 150 f.b., in attic; 1895–date, 52 f.b., in office.

Supervisors' Record (of building of courthouse), 1883–1886, 1 v., in attic.

Register of County Orders, 1853–1898, 7 v., in attic; 1900–1909, 3 v.

Commissioners' and Supervisors' Receipts and Expenditures, 1836–1899, 4 v., in attic.

Record of Claims, 1886–date, 7 v.

Volumes 1–3 are in attic. The record contains a list of county warrants, giving name of claimant, and amount and purpose of the claim.

County Orders, 1843–1886, 40 f.b., in attic.

COUNTY COURT RECORDS

County Court Record, 1872–date: Common Law, 8 v.; Criminal, 6 v.

[1] Examined December, 1911.

County Court Files (common law and criminal), 1872–date, 137 f.b.; 1 v.; index to each.

Index to Court Record, 1872–date, 2 v. each for plaintiff and defendant.

Inheritance Tax Record, 1895–date, 1 v.

Amount of estate, exemptions, and amount subject to taxation are recorded.

Inheritance Tax Papers, 1905–date, 18 f.b.

The papers contain depositions as to value and amount of legacies, report of appraisers, and amount of tax.

Record of Special Assessments, 1894–date, 12 v.; Files, 1901–date, 12 f.b.

The volumes record special assessments for improvements in the city of Joliet. The files include purpose of assessment, notice of assessments, objections, list of persons assessed, etc.

Assignment Claim Record, 1892–1893, 1 v.

This is a record of claims filed in assignment cases.

Insolvency Record, 1836–1856, 1 v., in attic; 1856–date, 2 v.

The record contains lists of liabilities and assets.

Assignment Files, 1886–date, 6 f.b.

These are schedules of debts and assets.

Adoption Papers, 1893–date, 3 f.b.

Insane and Conservators' Record, 1872–1904, 6 v.

Insanity Record, 1904–date, 2 v.

Insane Register, 1880–date, 1 v.

The register lists date of admission, name of patient, class, name of sureties, address, and remarks.

Index to Insanity Cases, 1 v.

Insanity Files, 1872–date, 119 f.b.

Naturalization Record: Declaration of Intention, 1872–1903, 3 v.; Minors, 1872–1903, 7 v.; Final Certificate 1872–1906, 5 v.

Naturalization Papers, 1898–1903, 4 f.b.

55 f.b. of earlier files are in attic.

General Docket: Common Law, 1881–date, 2 v.; Criminal, 1881–date, 2 v.

County Court Docket, 1857–1860, 1 v., in attic.

Clerks' Docket, 1874–date, 12 v.

Judges' Docket (common law and criminal), 1872–date, 16 v.

Judgment Record, 1858–1879, 11 v., in attic.

Judgment Docket, 1872–1885, 1 v.
Execution Docket, 1872–1889, 1 v.
Judgment and Execution Docket, 1885–date, 2 v.
Judges' Docket (insanity), 1893–date, 2 v.
Docket of Fines, 1881–date, 2 v.
The docket lists name of person fined and amount.

County Court Fee Book (common law, criminal, and insanity), 1872–date, 11 v.
Register of Jurors, 1888–date, 1 v.

TAXATION RECORDS

Assessment and Statement of Taxes, 1868–date, 1 f.b.
Statements of Assessments to Auditor of Public Accounts, 1850, 1852, 1858, 1861–1887, 1889–date, 1 f.b.
Abstract of Assessment of Taxes, 1885–date, 2 v.
Auditors' Transcripts of Lands, 1850–1859, 1 f.b.; also 1880, 1881, 1890, 1891, 1892, 1911.
Land Entry Book, 1835–1870, 1 v.
The entries include date of patent, name of patentee, description and amount of land, and remarks.

Entries of Conveyances (lands and lots), 1872–1874, 2 v., in attic.
School Plat Book, 1865–1895, 1 v.; 1871–date, 1 v.
Earlier plats have been transcribed into the second volume.

Docket of Rates and Amounts Wanted, 1887–date, 2 v.
The volumes give equalized value of property in each township, rate and amount of state, county, town, road, and bridge taxes; amount of the school tax and dog tax, and value of and tax on railroad property.

Certificates of Tax Levies, 1887–date, 9 f.b.
Certificates of State Tax Rates, 1877–date, 1 f.b.
District Road Tax Lists, 1887–date, 18 f.b.
Assessment of Railroad Property by State Board of Equalization, 1887–1910, 1 f.b.
Detailed Statement of Railroad Property to Auditor, 1877–date, 1 f.b.
Railroad Schedules of Value, 1850–1890, 6 f.b., in attic; 1882–date, 11 f.b.
Telegraph and Telephone Schedules, 1883–1898, 1 f.b.

Assessors' and Collectors' Books for county, 1836–1854, 21 v.; 1854–date.

All except assessors' books, 1901–date, and collectors' books, 1885–date, are in attic.

Railroad Tax Books, 1873–1875, 2 v., in attic; 1890–1903, 1 v.; 1900–date, 1 v. each from 18 townships, 2 v. each from three townships.

County Clerks' Tax Book (railroads), 1904–date, 1 v.

Telegraph Tax Book, 1886, in attic; current volumes in office.

Board of Review Record, 1889–1902, 1 v.

The record gives name of complainant, description of property, original assessment and findings of the board.

Board of Review Docket, 1899–1902, 1 v.

Board of Review Proceedings, 1899–date, 5 f.b. in attic and current files in office.

Delinquent Tax Lists, 1840–1844, 1852–1880, in attic; 1887–date, 3 f.b.

Abatement List, 1891–1893, 1898–1900, 1 v.; 1901–1906, 1 v.

Objections to Taxes, 1866–1909, 2 f.b.

Certificates of Tax Sales, 1840–1889, 24 f.b., in attic; 1888–date, 8 f.b., in office.

Register of Lands Sold for Taxes, 1839–1849, 1 v.

Tax Judgment, Sale, Redemption, and Forfeiture Record, 1849–date, 52 v.

Tax Forfeiture Record, 1879, 1 v.; 1889–date, 1 v.

Record of Affidavits for Tax Deeds, 1868–date, 9 v.

Affidavits for Tax Deeds, 1848–1885, 22 f.b., in attic; 1883–date, 7 f.b.

Treasurers' Accounts with Collectors, 1843–1874, 3 v., in attic.

RECORDS OF VITAL STATISTICS

Marriage Record, 1836–1877, 5 v.

The record gives date, names of parties, date of marriage, name of person officiating and his position.

Register of Marriages, 1877–date, 6 v.

Index to Marriage Records, 3 v. each for male and female.

Marriage Licenses and Affidavits, 1898–date, 16 f.b.; earlier ones in attic, 58 f.b.

Record of Applications for Marriage License, 1903–date, 14 v. (22–35)

Register of Births, 1877–date, 7 v.; Index, 2 v.

Register of Still Births, 1877–date, 1 v.

Register of Deaths, 1877–date, 4 v.; Index, 1 v.

Record of Certificates of Death (coroners' form), 1910–date, 1 v.

Birth Reports and Death Reports, 1877–date.

Those earlier than 1898 are in the attic; later ones in 23 f.b. in the office.

Record of Physicians' Certificates, 1877–date, 2 v.

Record of Physicians' and Midwives' Certificates, 1901–date, 1 v.

Register of Veterinary Surgeons' Certificates, 1899–date, 1 v.

Miscellaneous Certificate Record, 1 v.

These are certificates of architects, osteopaths, registered nurses, etc.

Register of Physicians and Accoucheurs, 1877–date, 1 v.

The register gives date of registration, name and address, school attended, diploma or certificate received, signature, and remarks.

Register of Dentists, 1892–date, 1 v.

Census of Will County, 1840, 1850, 1860, 1865, 1872, 1880, all in attic.

Agricultural Statistics, 1901–date, 10 v.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Poll Books, 1836–1893, 126 f.b., in attic.

Abstracts of Elections, 1836–1860, 1 f.b. (60); 1884–date, 4 f.b.

Commission Government Papers, 1 f.b.

The papers contain petitions, elections, officers for Manhattan and Lockport and petition of citizens of Joliet.

Incorporation of Villages, 1880–date, 1 f.b.

This is a file of petitions for and against incorporation, notice of election, election returns, poll books, and officers.

Patent Record, 1864–1872, 1 v., in attic.

Assessors' Bond Record, 1899–date, 1 v.

Files of Miscellaneous Bonds, 1836–1882.

The files include constables', town collectors', "grocery," and justices' bonds.

Register of County Officers, 1836–date, 1 v.

Register of Township Officers, 1887–date, 1 v.

Record of Justices, Magistrates, and Notaries, 1858–1885, 1 v., in attic.

Register of Notaries Public, 1871–date, 1 v.

The volume registers name, address, date of commission, date of expiration and signature.

Estray Record, 1847–1865, 1 v., in attic; 1865–1874, 1 v.
Estray Papers, 1836–1882, 3 f.b., in attic.
War Fund Certificates, 1863–1872, 2 v., in attic.
War Bounty Fund, 1867, *et seq.*, 1 v., in attic.
Militia Rolls, 1861, 1862, 1 f.b., in attic.
School Papers, 1840–1884, 12 f.b., in attic.
School Commissioners' Reports, 1840–1849, 1 f.b., in attic.
Teachers' Schedules, 1836–1845, in county superintendent's office.

The reports show number of pupils, attendance, and salary of teacher.

Record of Stallion Certificates, 1894–1909, 1 v.
Miscellaneous Papers, 1836–1879, 3 f.b., in attic; Index, 2 v.
Index to Miscellaneous Bonds, 1 v.
List of Stockholders in National Banks, 1882–1891, 1 f.b.
Treasurers' Reports, 1840–1873, 2 f.b., in attic.
Drainage Record [Swamp Land Record(?)], 1852–1875, 1 v., in attic.
Swamp Land Papers, 1856–1870, 1 f.b.

Contents: reports of sale, etc.

Swamp Land Record, 1853, 1 v.

The record contains description, amount and class of land, name of purchaser, and price.

Swamp Land Record, c. 1850, 2 v., in attic.
Register of Receipts and Expenditures, 1875–1886, 2 v.
Register of Fees Received by Clerk, 1891–date, 5 v.
Coroners' Record, 1869–1883, 1 v.

Clerk of the Probate Court

PROBATE COURT RECORDS

Probate Record, 1837–date, 66 v.

Early volumes contain sales, wills, inventories, appraisements, claims against estates, letters of administration, administrators' reports and accounts.

Estate Files, 1836–date, 392 f.b.; Guardians' Files, 69 f.b.; Conservators' Files, 22 f.b.
Index to Guardians, Conservators, and Estate Files, 1 v. each.

DOCKETS AND FEE BOOKS

Probate Court Dockets, 1867–date, in office; 1837–1853, 1 v.; 1857–1868, 4 v., in attic.

Probate Estate Docket, 1857–date, 6 v.

Guardians' Docket, 1849–date, 2 v.

Probate Judgment Docket, 1859–date, 11 v.

The docket records judgment of court on claims made against estates.

Probate Fee Book, 1836–date, 16 v.

RECORDS OF WILLS, BONDS, AND LETTERS

Will Record, 1837–date, 16 v.

Proof of Notices to Claimants, 1867–1891, 2 v.

These are affidavits of notice to creditors to file claims, records of notice, and publishers' certificates.

Proof of Adjustment of Claims, 1891–date, 6 v.

Administrators' Record, 1858–date, 16 v.

Executors' Record, 1858–date, 10 v.

Conservators' Record, 1905–date, 2 v.

Guardians' Record, 1858–date, 5 v.

Miscellaneous Record, 1875–date, 14 v.

The series contains special types of probate papers for which there is no ordinary record—minors' petitions for guardians, petitions de bonis non, etc.

INVENTORIES, APPRAISEMENTS, SALE BILLS, ETC.

Inventory and Appraisement Bill Record, 1841–1868, 3 v.

Volume B, 1848–1850, is missing.

Inventory Record, 1865–date, 20 v.

Appraisement Record, 1858–date, 9 v.

Personal Property Sale Record: Private, 1873–date, 1 v.; Public, 1889–date, 1 v.

Petition of administrator, etc. and sale bill are recorded.

Report Record, 1874–date, 14 v.

The volumes contain reports made to court by administrators, executors, guardians, conservators, etc.

Conservators' Report Record, 1893–date, 2 v.

Guardians' Report Record, 1885–date, 3 v.

Widows' Award Record, 1909–date, 1 v.

Widows' Relinquishment and Selection Record, 1866–date, 4 v.

Record of Sale of Real Estate to Pay Debts, 1867–date, 18 v.

Clerk of the Circuit Court

CIRCUIT COURT RECORDS

Circuit Court Record, 1836–date, 106 v.

Till 1862, common law, chancery, and criminal records were kept together. Both chancery and criminal were separated from common law in that year.

Circuit Court Files, 1836–date, 1004 f.b.

Index to Court Record, 8 v. each for plaintiff and defendant.

The index lists names of parties, kind of action, date, and number of case.

Numerical Index, 1880–date, 2 v.

A list of cases in order of their numbers.

"Index to Old Cases," 2 v.

Naturalization Record, 1854–date, 15 v.

DOCKETS, FEE BOOKS, ETC.

General Docket, 1854–date, 11 v.

Headings: attorneys, case, parties, nature of action, papers filed, and date of filing.

[Judges(?)] Dockets, 1836–date.

Judgment Docket, 1836–1875, 7 v.

Index to Judgment Dockets, 3 v.

Execution Docket, 1836–date, 6 v.

Judgment and Execution Docket, 1876–date, 16 v.

Executions, 14 f.b.

Lien Docket (docket of mechanics' liens), 1869–date, 2 v.

Docket of Fines, 1869–date, 2 v.

The docket contains name of person fined, indictment, date of arrest and judgment, amount of fine and cost, sheriff's return, and remarks.

Fee Book, 1836–date, 61 v.

Justice of the Peace Transcript Record, 1846–date, 5 v.

Justice of the Peace Transcripts, 14 f.b.

States Attorneys' Report Record, 1873–date, 1 v.

Coroners' Inquests, 1836–1886, 9 f.b., in attic; 1891–date, 3 f.b.

Indictment Record, 1882–1905, 1 v.

Recorder

Entry Book, 1836–date, 44 v.

Deed and Mortgage Record, 1836–date, 482 v.

General Index, 34 v. each for grantor and grantee.

Transcribed Record, 1832–1836, 2 v.

Plat Book, 1836–date, 18 v.

County Surveyor's Record, 1835–1839, 1848–1855, 1852–1853, 1854–1855, 1 v. each; 1906–date, 14 v.

Field Notes of Will County, 1836–1890, 8 v.

Exterior corners of township embraced in Will county, the meanders of the Kankakee river, surveys of Indian boundaries and reservations, meanders of the Illinois river, etc.

Record of Certificates of Levy, Sale, and Redemption, 1845–date, 7 v. (A–G)

Collectors' Bond Record, 1850–date, 5 v.

Stallion Register, 1910–date, 1 v.

WILLIAMSON COUNTY[1]

Williamson county was formed out of Franklin in 1839; the county seat is Marion. The courthouse, while not fireproof, is in the middle of a square. The vaults are excellent. They are twenty-two by twenty-six feet, with two-foot walls and steel shutters; the ceilings are vaulted and the floors built up from the ground. The shelves are wooden and the books are kept on end. The filingboxes are set in wooden pigeonholes.

County Clerk

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' AND SUPERVISORS' RECORDS

County Commissioners' Record, 1839–1848, 1 v.

This is a record of claims allowed against the county, reports of such officers as treasurers, collectors, and school commissioners; reports of road supervisors, lists of grand jurors, certificates of tax rates, etc. The volume is 10 x 14 inches and labeled, "Order Book A."

County Court Proceedings, 1849–1873, 2 v.

The contents are the same as above.

County Commissioners' Record, 1874–1908, 5 v.

Supervisors' Record, 1908–date, 1 v.

Road Record, 1884–date, 1 v.

The volume records copies of petitions to change roads, affidavits of posting notice, reports of road viewers, and plats of roads.

County Commissioners' Papers, 1859–date, 95 f.b.

The papers include claims, road petitions, contracts and specifications, miscellaneous reports, etc.

Miscellaneous Petitions, 2 f.b.

These are petitions for a railroad, Murphysboro to Shawneetown, for township organization, for changes of voting places, for permission to manufacture powder, for license to keep saloons, etc.

Register of County Orders, 1867–date, 5 v.

Jury List, 1872–date, 2 v.

[1] Examined May, 1912.

COUNTY COURT RECORD

County Court Record: Common Law, 1873–date, 2 v.; Criminal, 1872–date, 6 v.

Default Record, 1873–1898, 1 v.

Confession Record, 1900–date, 2 v.

County Court Files: Common Law and Criminal, 1872–date, 234 f.b.; Insanity, 1853–1879, 14 f.b.

Later insanity papers are filed with common law and criminal.

Index to Court Record, 1872–date, 1 v. each for plaintiff and defendant.

Insane and Conservators' Record, 1880–1893, 1 v.

The volume contains trials and bonds and letters of conservators.

Insanity Record, 1893–date, 2 v.

Naturalization Record, 1880–1906, 3 v.

Naturalization Papers, 1880–1896, 4 f.b.

Judgment Docket, 1872–1885, 1 v.

Execution Docket, 1872–1885, 1 v.

Judgment and Execution Docket, 1886–date, 1 v.

Insanity Docket, 1893–date, 1 v.

County Court Fee Book, 1872–date, 16 v.

Insanity Fee Book, 1893–date, 1 v.

TAXATION RECORDS

Docket of Rates and Amounts Wanted, 1876–date, 3 v.

Tract Book (original land entries), 1830–1900, 1 v.

Plats of School Districts, 1895–date, 1 v.

Certificates of Tax Levy, 1875–date, 16 f.b.

Assessors' Books and Collectors' Books, 1857–date.

Railroad Tax Book, 1873–date, 4 v.

Board of Review Record, 1899–date, 1 v.

Board of Review Papers, 1899–date, 1 f.b.

Board of Review Complaint Docket, 1899–date, 1 v.

Tax Judgment Record, 1861–1879, 6 v.

Tax Sale and Redemption Record, 1858–1879, 4 v.

Tax Judgment, Sale, Redemption, and Forfeiture Record, 1880–date, 6 v.

Record of Affidavits for Tax Deeds, 1877–date, 4 v.

Affidavits for Tax Deeds, 1877–date, 7 f.b.

Record of Certificates of Purchase at Tax Sales, 1893–1906, 1 v.
Treasurers' Accounts, County Funds, 1876–date, 2 v.
Collectors' Accounts, County Funds, 1876–date, 2 v.

RECORDS OF VITAL STATISTICS

Record of Marriages, 1839–1853, 1865, 1 v., 8 x 12 inches.

The volume is labeled "Marriage Licenses A," and is merely a record of the return, with date, names of parties, and person officiating. Licenses and certificates from 1853 to 1865 are pasted in scrapbooks.

Marriage License Record, 1853–1860, 1 v. (B), 10 x 15 inches.
Marriage Record, 1865–date, 13 v.

The record contains copy of license and certificate of marriage, giving names, dates, and addresses. After June, 1874, the ages of man and woman are given also.

Register of Marriages, 1878–1886, 1 v.

The board of health record; it has not been kept since 1886.

Index to Marriages, 1865–1882, males; 1874–1882, females, 2 v.
Marriage Licenses, 1839–date, 117 f.b.
Record of Applications for Marriage License, 1883–date, 13 v.
Register of Births, 1877–date, 6 v.; Index, 1 v.
Register of Still Births, 1877–date, 1 v.
Register of Deaths, 1877–date, 2 v.; Index, 1 v.
Birth Reports, 1887–date, 24 f.b.
Death Reports, 1878–date, 12 f.b.
Record of Physicians' Certificates, 1877–date, 2 v.
Register of Physicians and Accoucheurs, 1877–date, 1 v.
Record of Examination of Physicians and Midwives, 1877–date, 1 v.
Record of Dental Surgeons, 1895–date, 1 v.
Record of Veterinary Surgeons, 1900–date, 1 v.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Justices' and Constables' Bond Record, 1881–date, 2 v.
Assessors' Bond Record, 1899–date, 2 v.
Official Bond Record, 1880–date, 2 v.

Bonds of county officers.

County Officers' Semiannual Reports, 1895–date, 1 v.

These include reports of fees and emoluments received by circuit clerk, county clerk, and sheriff.

Register of Officers Elected, 1857–date, 1 v.

The register lists name of officer, date of election, and to what office and length of term.

Estray Record, 1867–1905, 1 v

Militia Roll Record, 1861, 1 v.

The total number of men subject to duty was 1742.

Articles of Agreement, Contracts, etc., 1840–date, 4 f.b.

Incorporation Papers (municipal corporations), 1 f.b.

Index to Miscellaneous Files, 1839–date, 1 v.

County Clerk—Probate

PROBATE COURT RECORDS

Probate Court Record, 1840–1858, 1 v.

The record contains court orders and decrees, letters, bonds, inventories, appraisements and sale bills, reports and accounts. The volume is 12 x 16 inches and is labeled "Decrees Probate Court."

Probate Record, 1852–1859, 1 v., 10 x 14 inches.

The record contains copies of bonds and letters of administrators, executors and guardians, inventories, appraisements, and sale bills.

Probate Record, 1860–date, 9 v.

The contents include: court orders and decrees—orders appointing guardians or administrators; orders for administrators to file report; orders allowing claims; record of petitions for dower, for letters of administration, for probate of wills, for sale of real estate to pay debts, etc. In v. D there are some criminal cases of 1878–1879.

Probate Files: Estates, 1839–date, 219 f.b.; Guardianships, 1875–date, 79 f.b.

The files are arranged alphabetically.

Index to Probate Records, 1 v.

The index lists name of estate, administrator, book and page reference to the several records, and reference to the files.

Index to Guardians' Records, 1 v.

The index lists name of guardian and ward, and reference as above.

DOCKETS AND FEE BOOKS

Journal for Allowances of Claims, 1852–1860, 1 v.

Contents: claims allowed against estates, with name of estate and of claimant, amount and nature of claim.

Probate Judgment Docket of Claims, 1867–1882, 1 v.

Probate Judges' Docket, 1860–date, 10 v.

Probate Docket and Ledger, 1850–1892, 4 v.

The volumes contain: name of estate; date of death; name of administrator; date of letters and bond; amount of bond; names of widow and heirs; amount and date of inventory and sale bills, and list of claims allowed.

Probate Fee Book, 1863–date, 10 v.

RECORDS OF WILLS, BONDS, AND LETTERS

Will Record, 1853–date, 3 v.

Administrators' Record, 1860–1879, 3 v.

Executors' Record, 1860–1881, 2 v.

Administrators' and Executors' Record, 1880–date, 4 v.

Guardians' Record, 1860–date, 4 v.

Miscellaneous Bond Record (de bonis non, etc.), 1876–date, 1 v.

INVENTORIES, APPRAISEMENTS, SALE BILLS, ETC.

Inventory, Appraisement, and Sale Record, 1866–1871, 1 v.

Inventory Record, 1871–date, 5 v.

Guardians' Inventory Record, 1876–1893, 1 v.

Appraisement Record, 1869–date, 5 v.

Sale Bill Record, 1871–date, 3 v.

Report Record, 1876–date, 6 v.

Record of Petitions to Sell Real Estate, 1867–1880, 1 v.

The record contains petition to sell real estate, decree, and report of sale.

Administrators' and Guardians' Record of Petitions to Sell Real Estate, 1906–date, 1 v.

The contents are the same as above.

Clerk of the Circuit Court

CIRCUIT COURT RECORDS

Circuit Court Orders (common law, chancery, and criminal), 1855–1871, 3 v.

Chancery Record, 1868–date, 21 v.

Circuit Court Record: Common Law and Criminal, 1871–1906, 6 v.; Criminal, 1903–date, 1 v.; Common Law, 1907–date, 1 v.

Court records prior to 1855 are said to have been destroyed in a fire of 1874.

Index to Court Records, 1858–date, 3 v. each for plaintiff and defendant.
Naturalization Record, 1868–1884, 1 v.
Circuit Court Files, 1840–date, 771 f.b.
The three branches were filed together till 1888.

DOCKETS, FEE BOOKS, ETC.

Judges' Docket, 1868–date, 13 v.
Judgment Docket, 1840–1852, 1 v.; 1871–1881, 1 v.
Execution Docket, 1871–1881, 1 v.
Judgment and Execution Docket, 1881–date, 2 v.
Mechanics' Lien Docket, 1887–date, 2 v.
Fee Book, 1868–date, 17 v.
Justice of the Peace Transcript Record, 1860–date, 2 v.
Indictment Record, 1874–1886, 1891–1893, 2 v.
Coroners' Record of Inquests, 1881–1905, 2 v.
Register of Jurors, 1874–date, 2 v.

Circuit Clerk—Recorder

DEED AND MORTGAGE RECORDS

Entry Book, 1869–1874, 1 v.; 1880–date, 10 v.
Deed Record, A, 1823–1849, 1 v.
This is a record of transcripts from Franklin county.

Deed Record, 1843–1847, 1 v.
The record also contains masters' and sheriffs' deeds, etc., 1870–1893.

Deed Record, 1850–1856, 1 v.
The volume also contains miscellaneous records, 1883–1903.

Deed Record, 1852–date, 127 v.
Releases are in the same series.

Masters' Deed Record, 1879–date, 3 v.
Sheriffs' Deed Record, 1870–1900, 1 v.
Trust Deed and Sale of Mortgage Record, 1871–1886, 1 v.
Mortgage Record, 1860–date, 49 v.
Plat Book, 1891–date, 3 v.
Index to Deeds, 1839–date, 10 v. each for grantor and grantee.
Index to Mortgages, 1885–date, 7 v. each for mortgagor and mortgagee.

Index to Marginal Releases and Assignments, 1905–date, 1 v.
Chattel Mortgage Record, 1861–date, 26 v.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Sheriffs' Certificate of Levy and Sale Record, 1860–1906, 1 v.
Tract Book, 1817–date, 1 v.
This is a record of original land entries.
Surveyors' Record, 1862–date, 2 v.
Township Collectors' Bond Record, 1909–date, 1 v.
Stallion Register, 1910–date, 2 v.
Miscellaneous Record, 1896–date, 9 v.

WINNEBAGO COUNTY[1]

Winnebago county was formed from Jo Daviess and La Salle in 1836; the county seat is Rockford. The county has a separate recorder's office. The courthouse is fireproof and equipped with steam heat and electric lights. The vaults are fireproof, and the records well kept and carefully preserved against dust.

County Clerk

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' AND SUPERVISORS' RECORDS

County Commissioners' Court Record, 1836–1849, 3 v. in 2; Index, 1 v.

Supervisors' Record, 1849–date, 12 v.; Index, 1 v.

Order Book, 1836–1871, 1 v.

The volume contains plats of roads and accompanying notes with reference to commissioners' records.

County Commissioners' Papers, 1840–1850, 3 f.b.

Supervisors' Papers, 1850–date, 99 f.b.

Register of County Orders, 1851–date, 8 v.

Headings: to whom issued, for what, date, etc.

COUNTY COURT RECORD

County Court Record: Chancery, 1854–1863, 2 v.; Common Law and Criminal, 1854–date, 10 v.; Default, 1872, 1 v.; Confession, 1908, 1 v., 1 entry.

County Court Files (common law, criminal, and chancery), 1854–date, filed by number.

Special Assessments, City of Rockford: Record of Special Assessments, 1886–1888, 2 v.; Assessment Roll of 1891; petitions for special assessments, 1910 and 1911.

Adoption Record, 1907–date, 1 v.

Insanity Record, 1876–date, 3 v.

[1] Examined January, 1912.

Naturalization Record: Declaration of Intention, 1859–1906, 3 v., Minors and Soldiers, 1877–1900, 1 v.; Minors, 1891–1906, 3 v.; Final Certificate, 1859–1906, 5 v.

General Docket, 1858–date, 2 v.

Judges' Docket (common law, criminal, and chancery), 1854–1863, 5 v.; 1873–date, 6 v.

Bar Dockets, 1858–date, a few volumes.

Clerks' Docket, 1872–date, 5 v.

Earlier volumes are in the treasurer's vault.

Judgment Docket, 1854–date, 4 v.

Execution Docket, 1854–date, 3 v.

Dependent and Delinquent Docket, 1881–date, 1 v.

The docket contains a list of dependent and delinquent children with entry of their disposition.

County Court Fee Book (common law, criminal, and chancery), 1855–1860, 2 v.; 1872–date, 4 v.

TAXATION RECORDS

Abstract of Assessments and Footings of Taxes, 1904–date, 1 v.

Statement of Assessments of Taxes, 1850–date.

Those for 1850–1890 are in attic.

Land [Entry] Book, 1839–1848, 1 v.

Entries of Conveyances, 1872–1873, 1 v.

[Railroad(?)] Schedules of Value, 1872–date.

Those prior to 1890 are in attic.

Tax List for West Rockford, 1849, 1 v.; 1850, 1 v.

Assessors' Books and Collectors' Books, 1851–1867, 1 v. each year.

Assessors' Books, 1868–date; Collectors' Books, 1868–date.

Railroad Tax Books, 1858–date; Telegraph Tax Books, 1866–date.

Board of Review Complaint Docket, 1899–date, 3 v.

Delinquent Tax Lists, 1850–date, in treasurer's vault.

Tax Judgment Record, 1850–1880, 3 v.

The volume 1857–1867 is missing.

Tax Sale Record, 1850–1874, 5 v.

Tax Sale and Redemption Record, 1875–1880, 1 v.

Tax Judgment, Sale, Redemption, and Forfeiture Record, 1881–date, 24 v.

Record of Affidavits for Tax Deeds, 1848–1868, 1 v.; 1873–date, 3 v.

The first volume also contains tax sales, 1844–1850.

Affidavits for Tax Deeds, 1882–date, 6 f.b.

Inheritance Tax Record, 1896–date, 1 v.

The record contains estate, beneficiary, amount of bequest, rate and amount of tax.

Town Collectors' Accounts with County, 1850–1867, 2 v.

Treasurers' Accounts with County, 1894–date, 1 v.

Treasurers' Accounts with Town Collectors, 1895–date, 8 v.

RECORDS OF VITAL STATISTICS

Marriage Record, 1837–date, 8 v.

The record gives date of license, names of parties, certificate of officer performing ceremony and date; after 1884 ages of parties also.

Register of Marriages, 1877–date, 5 v.; Index, 2 v. each for male and female.

Board of health form.

Marriage Licenses and Applications, 1837–date, 67 f.b.

Register of Births, 1877–date, 10 v.; Index, 3 v.

Register of Deaths, 1877–date, 8 v.; Index, 2 v.

Register of Coroners' Death Certificates, 1910–date, 1 v.

Birth Reports, 1877–date, 18 f.b.

Death Reports, 1878–date, 13 f.b.

Record of Physicians' Certificates, 1877–date, 2 v.

Record of Dentists' Certificates, 1877–date, 1 v.

Register of Physicians, 1877–date, 1 v.

Register of Dentists, 1877–date, 1 v.

Architects' License Record, 1897–date, 1 v.

Census of the County, 1860, 1880.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Poll Books and Abstracts of Elections, 1836–date, in attic.

Patent Record, 1869, 1 v.

Assessors' Bond Record, 1899–date, 1 v.

Justices' and Constables' Bond Record, 1879–date, 1 v.

Official Bonds, 1836–1905, 4 f.b.

Lists of County Officers, 1869–date, 2 v.

List of Justices and Constables, 1841–1872, 1 v.

Estray Record, 1856–1876, 1 v., in treasurer's vault.

School Commissioners' Papers, 1844–1855.

The papers contain reports of sales of school lands, etc.

Coroners' Record of Inquests, 1877–1879, 1 v.; 1884–1891, 1 v.

Coroners' Record, 1891–1901, 1 v.

Coroners' Inquest, Courthouse Disaster, Rockford, Illinois, May 11, 1877.

The disaster was the collapse of the courthouse dome.

Account Book of Births, 1902–date, 2 v.; Deaths, 1902–date, 1 v.

List of County Orders issued on the War Fund, 1861–1862, 1 v.

Militia Roll Record, 1861–1862, 1 v.

Register of Annual Interest Payments on Winnebago County War Orders, 1863–1868, 1 v.

County Clerk's Collection Register, 1888–date, 2 v.

The register lists claimant, title of cause, amount of fee, and reference to fee book.

County Clerks' Register of Receipts and Expenditures, 1847–1854, 1 v.; 1873–date, 7 v.

County Clerk—Probate

PROBATE COURT RECORDS

Probate Journal, 1841–1849, 1 v.

The journal contains probate records of all descriptions.

"Order Ledger 2," 1841–1845, 1 v.

The volume contains court orders, inventories, appraisements, claims against estates, court rulings on them, administrators' and executors' accounts, and probate fees, 1843–1849.

Probate Records, 1845–1856, 4 v.

The records include wills, letters, oaths, bonds, accounts of administrators, executors, and guardians, inventories, appraisements, sale bills, orders on claims, etc.

Probate Court Record, 1856–date, 38 v.

Estate Files, 1837–date, 325 f.b.

The papers are arranged chronologically by number.

Guardians' and Conservators' Files, 1838–date, 91 f.b., filed by letter.

Index to Guardianship and Miscellaneous Files, 1 v.

DOCKETS AND FEE BOOKS

Probate Docket, 1869–1892, 11 v., in treasurer's vault.

Probate Judgment Docket, 1886–date, 6 v., Index, 1 v.

Probate Judges' Docket, 1886–date, 16 v.

The docket contains claims against estates and rulings of the court thereon.

Estate Docket, 1859–date, 5 v.

Probate Fee Book, 1867–1873, 1 v.; 1873–date, 13 v.

RECORDS OF WILLS, BONDS, AND LETTERS

Record of Wills, 1866–date, 6 v.

Record of Proof of Notice to Claimants, 1863–date, 3 v.

Affidavits of administrator or executor that notice was given, publishers' certificate, and clipping of the notice are recorded.

Record of Petitions for Letters, 1866–1889, 2 v.

Record of Administrators, 1855–date, 8 v.

Record of Executors, 1855–date, 8 v.

The record contains petition, proof of will, oath, bond, letters, and appointment of appraisers.

Record of Guardians, 1855–date, 5 v.

Petition for appointment, bond, oath, and letters are recorded.

Trusteeship Record, 1911, 1 v.

Contents: petition for letters, bond, oath, and letters.

INVENTORIES, APPRAISEMENTS, SALE BILLS, ETC.

Inventory Record, 1859–date, 13 v.

Appraisement Record, 1855–date, 6 v.

The record gives appointment, oath, appraisement bill, and widow's allowance.

Sale Record of Personal Property, 1859–date, 2 v.

Report Record, 1850–date, 23 v.

Administrators', executors', conservators' and guardians' reports are recorded.

Widow's Relinquishment and Selection Record, 1870–date, 4 v.

Sale Record, Real Estate, 1884–date, 2 v.

Clerk of the Circuit Court

CIRCUIT COURT RECORDS

Circuit Court Record (common law and criminal), 1836–date, 40 v.

Chancery Record, 1840–date, 51 v.

From 1845 to 1857 chancery and common law records were run together.

Record of Cognovits, 1882–date, 2 v.

Circuit Court Files, 1836–date: Common Law and Chancery, 720 f.b.; Criminal, 147 f.b.
Naturalization Record, 1851–date, 14 v.
Naturalization Papers, 1840–1880, 1 f.b.
General Docket, 1857–date, 16 v.
Circuit Court Dockets, 1836–1885, in treasurers' vault; 1885–date.
Bar Dockets, 1889–date, 2 f.b.
These are printed term calendars.
Judgment Docket, 1836–date, 20 v.
Execution Docket, 1851–date, 6 v.
Executions, 1839–1902, 11 f.b.
Mechanics' Lien Docket, 1887–date, 3 v.
Liens, 1887–1903, 3 f.b.
Fee Book, 1836–date, 22 v.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Justice of the Peace Transcript Record, 1845–date, 8 v.
Justice of the Peace Transcripts, 1837–date, 10 f.b.
States Attorneys' Reports, 1873–1902, 1 f.b.
Jury Venires, 1838–1902, 3 f.b.
Collectors' Bond Record, 1850–date, 5 v.
Township Treasurers' Bond Record, 1909–date, 1 v.
Miscellaneous Record, 1857–date, 7 v.
The earlier volumes contain recorders' records.
Trustees' Certificate Record, 1871–date, 2 v.
Certificates of Election of Trustees, 1850–1899, 1 f.b.
Circuit Clerks' Register of Receipts and Expenditures, 1873–date, 4 v.

RECORDER

Entry Book, 1836–date, 34 v.
Deed Record, 1836–date, 229 v.
Mortgage Record, 1845–date, 187 v.
Plat Book, 1866–date, 12 v.
General Index, 32 v. each for grantor and grantee.
Index to Plats, 1 v.
Chattel Mortgage Record, 1848–date, 61 v.
The first 27 v. are in treasurer's office.

Record of Incorporations, 1878–date, 6 v.
Masters' Reports, 1847–1898, 1 f.b.
Masters' Certificates of Sale, 1848–1902, 4 f.b.
Sheriffs' Certificates of Levy and Sale, 1840–1902, 4 f.b
Certificates of Levy and Sale Record, 1843–date, 9 v.
Volume 1, 1843–1853, is labeled "Attachment Record."
Field Notes of County, 1875, 1 v.
Record of Townships, 1849, 1 v., in treasurer's office.
Andersonville Monument Commission Records, 1907, 1 v.

WOODFORD COUNTY[1]

Woodford county was formed in 1841 from McLean and Tazewell; the county seat is Eureka. Both courthouse and vaults are fireproof.

County Clerk

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' AND SUPERVISORS' RECORDS

County Commissioners' and Supervisors' Record, 1841–date, 9 v. (A–I)

Proceedings of Board of Supervisors (minutes), 1857–1894, 4 v.

Register of County Orders, 1842–date, 7 v. (A–G)

Number of order, to whom issued, and for what are registered.

COUNTY COURT RECORDS

County Court Record, 1872–date: Common Law, 2 v.; Criminal, 2 v.

County Court Files, 1872–date, 17 f.b.

Assignees' Inventory and List of Property of Insolvent, 1878–1886, 1 v.

Insanity Record, 1892–date, 2 v. (1–2).

Petition for investigation, jury trial, verdict, and court order are recorded.

Naturalization Record, 1864–1904, 5 v.

Insanity Files, 1872–date, 18 f.b.

Judgment Docket, 1858–date, 2 v.

Execution Docket, 1858–date, 2 v.

Insanity Docket, 1892–date, 2 v.

County Court Fee Book (common law and criminal), 1872–date, 2 v.

TAXATION RECORDS

Assessment and Statement of Taxes, 1879–date, 1 v.

Transcript of Original Entries from Auditor, 1854, 1 v.

School District Plat Record from 1849, 1 v.

[1] Examined July–August, 1912.

Assessors' Books, 1850–date,
Collectors' Books, 1843–date.
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School Commissioners' Reports, 1847–1867, 1 v.
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Militia Roll Record, 1861–1863, 1 v.
County Clerks' Earnings Journal, 1909–date, 1 v.
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